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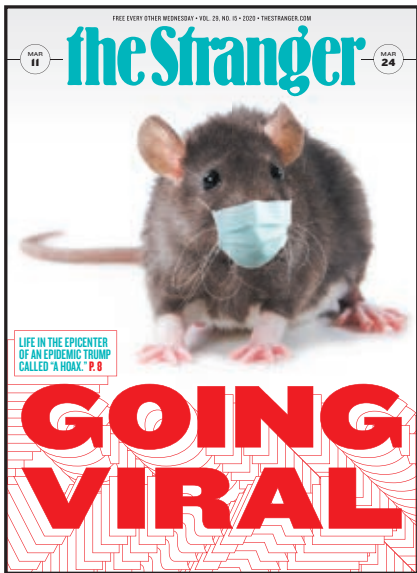
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FORTNIGHT

What you missed if you've been under quarantine for the last two weeks.
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GOING VIRAL

The week the Pacific Northwest learned we were at the center of a worldwide epidemic.
By Lester Black

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Deadline for submissions is Friday March 13, 2020 at 5 pm.

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EDITOR'S NOTE



JOHNNY SAMPSON

An editor at *The Stranger* has been loudly complaining about how much he loves the Amazon Go Grocery store. This editor used to work at a bookstore, many years ago, and he resents what Amazon has done to traditional retail and independent businesses. But he has also worked on Capitol Hill for almost two decades, a neighborhood where it used to be easy to find lunch for \$8, where it's now hard to find lunch for less than \$20. When this editor visited the full-sized Amazon Go Grocery that just opened on Pike Street, blocks from *The Stranger's* office, he walked in highly suspicious, ready to hate it. But there on the shelf was his ideal version of lunch: a balanced meal of salmon with veggies and carbs, for \$8.99. To buy it, he just grabbed it and walked out. No lines to wait in. No self-checkout machines full of coronavirus-covered surfaces. Surely the almost sci-fi experience was powered by Orwellian surveillance technology. Surely other businesses can't compete with a grocery store that has no labor costs. Ashamed and horrified, he walked back to the office with his meal, thinking, "Fuck me, I love Amazon Go Grocery."

ASK KENDRA THE KITTEN!



Dear Kendra the Kitten,
 My boyfriend, Ryan, says that you're not real and I can't actually ask you questions. He says they're all made up. Can you prove him wrong?
 —Kaitlin, 27, Cap Hill

"Cap Hill"? I can't believe you said that. Where are you from, Fresno? What are you going to ask me next, where's the nearest In-N-Out Burger? While I would love to solve this disagreement for you, I'm way too busy not getting the coronavirus to think of some dumb way to prove to your dumb boyfriend that I exist. A dog in Hong Kong just tested positive for COVID-19, and ABC News says that while dogs and cats can't pass the disease to humans, humans *can* pass it to us. Great! I've had mild diarrhea all week, and now this. Somehow I'm not sensing a lot of empathy from you. For the record—I was almost literally born yesterday and even I know this—it's called "Capitol Hill." If you and that dipshit you're dating really must shorten it, it's "the hill."

Dear Kendra the Kitten,
 I have two indoor cats, and my kid won't clean the cat box without me badgering her and threatening to take away her phone. To be fair, she's not much of a self-starter on any of her chores. But can you at least talk some sense into her about the importance of a clean cat box?

—Janet, 52, Maple Valley

Oh, Janet, that seems *sooooo* difficult. Gosh, how are you managing? Do you need some support? Let me understand, you have *two* cats—must be nice for them to have companionship—and also a human being you created, who legally has to do whatever you say, and your problem is that your live-in child-servant doesn't do exactly what you say at all times? I don't know what to tell you, but if you do get her to respond to basic commands again, can you have her clean my cat box next? It's overflowing with the whole diarrhea situation.

Hi Kendra,
 Is there a Twitter or Facebook page we could follow you on?

—Jonathan, 23, Minnesota

No.

Do you have a question for Kendra the Kitten? Send it to askkendrathekitten@thestranger.com.

I, ANONYMOUS



You stole a check from my mailbox, washed it, filled it out for \$2K, and signed your full name before you unsuccessfully tried to cash it. It took me seconds to find you online. I learned about your girlfriend, your family history, and your brother's suicide. In a fit of rage, I opened a social-media account in your brother's name and stalked you. My intention was to fuck with you and your sense of safety, just as you'd done to me. When you sent me a message asking, "Is it really you?" thinking I was your brother contacting you from the afterlife, I recoiled in horror. And shrunk with guilt. You were so fucked up. I couldn't bear to follow through with my sick plan to torment you. So instead I sent you notes of encouragement, hoping to convince you to change your ways. I saw you struggle with drug addiction, scumbag friends, and bad decisions... and I was rooting for you, hoping you'd find your way in life—and you did. Congrats on staying out of prison, getting clean, and starting a family. I haven't checked in on you for some time, but I hope you're doing well. **ANONYMOUS**

SOMETHING TO GET OFF YOUR CHEST?

E-mail 200 words or less to
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The Pacific Northwest, now rebranded "**New Wuhan**," became the hub of an outbreak of COVID-19, a new coronavirus that is spreading illness, death, and panic both locally and all over the world. The upside is that crowded Seattle gyms have been nearly empty and you now have a perfect excuse to cancel plans.

Local and state officials have suggested that people who can **work from home** should do so in an effort to slow the spread of coronavirus and protect those with compromised immune systems. If you need any tips on how to live like a shut-in, **Ted Kaczynski** has an excellent prison zine.

Amazon, **Microsoft**, and other big em-

ployers took the suggestion of local officials to heart and encouraged their employees to telecommute. Amazon also announced it would subsidize the rents of the restaurants on their campus to help them through this difficult time. Good for Amazon. Hopefully, other landlords will follow their lead.

The federal response to coronavirus has been an unqualified disaster. Moldy pile of feces with fake hair on top **Donald Trump** criticized Washington State governor **Jay Inslee** for criticizing the federal response. "That governor is a snake," said the same US president who days earlier had called coronavirus "a hoax."

Seattle City Council member **Debora Juarez** has self-quarantined at home in District 5. Juarez has had multiple sclerosis for more than 20 years, Crosscut reported. Because her immune system is weakened from the disease, she is more susceptible to infection. Juarez is conducting her council work by phone and feeling a weird kind of

vulnerable during this outbreak.

On the day the local death toll reached 14, **Emerald City Comic Con** announced it would postpone the 2020 convention originally slated to open on March 12. The new date is sometime this summer. Attendees and exhibitors had already started to announce that they would not be attending.



Not a snake.

Conventions are notorious for getting attendees sick (what con-goers call "con crud"). And in 2009, the gaming convention **PAX** in Seattle saw the spread of H1N1 virus to around 100 people.

The **University of Washington, Seattle University**, and other schools have temporarily suspended campus classes. Instead of meeting in person, classes will meet online, saving everyone from potentially spreading or contracting the virus as well as needing to put on pants.

At a sparsely attended open mic at the Capitol Hill Jai Thai, Seattle comic **Megan KD**

laid down an eternal truth that you may have thought for years but never expressed, turning it into a much-needed laugh during the opening phase of the coronavirus panic. "I wish **couch surfing** were as fun as it sounds," she deadpanned.

The president called the governor of Washington "a snake."

Overheard comments at a **medical facility**, ranging from the racist to the ridiculous: "My sister told me black people can't catch the virus. I'm not going to be tested." "This is because those Chinese eat **bats**." "They made this in a lab. The government has the cure, but it's all controlled by Big Pharma." "So... if you get this coronavirus, is that the kind of thing you can get pain meds for?"

Overheard at **Rite Aid**: "First it was masks. Then it was toilet paper. Now it's **bags**. The shortages are never-ending!" ■



LESTER BLACK

King County's first quarantine site being assembled out of modular housing units on a piece of property in White Center.

Going Viral

Life in the epicenter of an epidemic Trump called “a hoax.”

BY LESTER BLACK

By the time President Donald Trump stood on a South Carolina stage and declared to a roaring crowd that concerns over coronavirus were “a hoax,” the virus had already killed two people in King County. We just didn’t know it yet.

Trump’s rally was on Friday, February 28. A day later, Seattle learned about the first fatality from COVID-19, the deadly flu-like disease. By Sunday, the death toll had risen to two, and a doctor from the Kirkland hospital where the first patient died told reporters, “What we’re seeing is the tip of the iceberg.” He was right.

Over the next week, the number of deaths climbed, confirmed coronavirus cases skyrocketed, and Seattle became enveloped in a slow-motion crisis where the killer wasn’t hurricane winds or asphyxiating wildfire smoke but instead a silent and invisible virus.

Not long ago, COVID-19 was a foreign concern, something China and Iran and Italy were dealing with. Now it was suddenly a direct threat to our schools, hospitals, and retirement homes. Seattleites learned the phrase “community spread,” a benign-

sounding term that means something far more sinister: The virus was here and we were giving it to each other.

All over the metro area, reports of confirmed cases started trickling out: a concessions worker at a football game had it, a University of Washington employee had it, a Facebook worker had it, as did a high schooler in Snohomish County. Seattle was facing the specter of a virus that could be 30 times deadlier than the common flu spreading on bus railings and offices desks and hospital waiting rooms.

By the end of the week, officials would be encouraging companies to let employees telecommute, and offices in the city’s economic engine of South Lake Union would empty out as the city faced its new reality.

Trump’s “hoax” was already here. It had been spreading for weeks.

6 Dead, 14 Infected

By the morning of Monday, March 2, Seattle’s fifth-tallest skyscraper was shut down for coronavirus cleaning and the death toll was climbing so fast that even public-health

leaders couldn’t keep track.

During a morning press conference, Jeffrey Duchin, health officer for Public Health—Seattle & King County, told a room full of reporters and camera crews that new

“We are past the point of containment,” said UW epidemiologist Dr. Helen Chu.

cases had brought “the total number of cases to 14 including five deaths.” But then 15 minutes later at the same press conference, Dr. Ettore Palazzo, a doctor at Evergreen Health hospital in Kirkland, told the same reporters, “We now at this time have 10 confirmed cases of COVID-19 at Evergreen. Six of those cases have died.”

The room started buzzing: Was it five deaths or six? Who was right? A reporter yelled out, “Did you just say six?” and Palazzo turned and quickly said, in a tone that

conveyed that he sadly knew he was right, “I did.” Washington State was suddenly at the center of a global epidemic, with 14 confirmed cases and the only known death from COVID-19 in the country.

This outbreak shouldn’t have been a surprise. On January 20, a Snohomish County man became the first confirmed case in the United States. He had visited Wuhan, China, where the outbreak began, and then flew back through the Seattle-Tacoma International Airport. The case made headlines but quickly fell into the back of the public consciousness. Public-health officials said it was still possible to contain the virus from spreading further, and more than five weeks passed with no new COVID-19 cases reported.

By Monday, it was abundantly clear that the virus had not been contained. Not only were new cases being reported and new deaths occurring, genetic testing by the Fred Hutchinson Cancer Research Center showed that these new cases were direct descendants of the virus the first man contracted. The federal government had so far barred testing for the virus unless the person had recently traveled to China or had

known contact with an infected individual. This restrictive testing criteria, combined with a shortage of COVID-19 diagnostic tests, meant the virus was allowed to spread without new cases being detected, according to Dr. Trevor Bedford, a researcher with the Seattle cancer institute.

“This lack of testing was a critical error and allowed an outbreak in Snohomish County and surrounding areas to grow to a sizable problem before it was even detected,” Bedford said.

The only reason we didn’t have new cases was because our government wasn’t looking for them.

The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), the federal agency that manages COVID-19 testing, responded to the criticism by promptly removing data from its website—data that had showed how many tests had been completed nationwide (they were reporting 459 completed tests with only three confirmed community transmissions). Then the CDC abruptly canceled a planned press conference.

Trump finished this Monday by speaking to a crowd full of screaming supporters in North Carolina. It was the eve of Super Tuesday, and Trump said that “Sleepy Joe” Biden will be “put in a home.” And then, lying through his teeth and clearly worried about the stock market, Trump added that his “administration had taken the most aggressive action in modern history to protect Americans from the coronavirus... Our tough and early actions have really been proven to be 100 percent right.”

9 Dead, 27 Infected

At 7 a.m. on Tuesday, March 3, one of Washington State’s US senators sent a message to the Trump administration.

“If someone in the White House is actually in charge of responding to this crisis, it would be news to anyone in my state,” Senator Patty Murray said during a Senate hearing in Washington, DC, with the directors of the CDC and the Food and Drug Administration (FDA). “This is really a frightening time. At least six people in my home state have already died from the virus, and I’m told we should expect more.”

The criticism was bipartisan. Republican senators questioned how the CDC had failed to expand testing for the virus after the initial confirmed case. Dr. Anne Schuchat, principal deputy director of the CDC, said the agency had sent out test kits in January but the diagnostic tests in those kits ended up being defective. Dr. Stephen Hahn, commissioner of the FDA, said the agency would ship more than one million tests by the end of the week. Within minutes, a *New York Times* report found that Hahn’s claim was almost entirely unbelievable.

Governor Jay Inslee had better news a few hours later, when he toured a health clinic in Seattle’s Chinatown-International District. Inslee said that the state’s lab was now able to perform 200 COVID-19 tests a day and that the University of Washington would soon begin testing a thousand a day. Dr. Kathy Lofy, a health officer for the Washington State Department of Health, had more dire news during the same press conference.

“We know that [COVID-19] is spreading in King County. We know it is spreading in Snohomish County,” Lofy said. “It’s very possible

that it’s spreading in other counties as well.”

An hour later, a new batch of test results confirmed Lofy’s statement: COVID-19 had now killed nine people in the state, including the first death in Snohomish County. Seven of the deaths were linked to one nursing home in Kirkland. There were now 27 confirmed cases in the state.

“January 1 in Wuhan was March 1 in Seattle,” Bedford, the Fred Hutchinson researcher, told the health news website STAT on March 3, referencing the Chinese city at the center of the original COVID-19 outbreak. Bedford pleaded for Seattle to take decisive action by increasing testing, expanding social distancing, and placing infected people under quarantine.

By Tuesday afternoon, King County’s first quarantine site was being assembled out of modular housing units on a muddy piece of property in White Center, an unincorporated working-class area south of Seattle. The

“January 1 in Wuhan was March 1 in Seattle,” said a researcher at Fred Hutch.

county bought 14 dour-looking modular housing units from migrant worker camps in Midwestern oil fields. Each unit had four separate rooms with two twin-size beds and a bathroom, although the county didn’t think the utilities would be hooked up before quarantined individuals would start moving in at the end of the week. They would have to use portable toilets.

In the apartment buildings surrounding the White Center COVID-19 camp, neighbors appeared to be surprised by the appearance of the quarantine units. Jeffrey Stotts, 60, who recently moved into a new apartment building across the street, told me: “I don’t like it coming here. The people who are going to go in and out of there are going to have [the virus] on their clothing and it’ll go airborne.” Stotts said his wife is 73 and has chronic obstructive pulmonary disease, which makes her prone to pneumonia.

Joe Nguyen, the state senator representing the area, put out a statement a short time later questioning the placement of the camp. “I understand why this facility is needed,” Nguyen said. “But the appearance of placing it in a neighborhood that has already been historically marginalized conveys a message about whose safety we most value in our society that is not lost on me.”

Officials in Kent, a city further south, protested even more a day later when it leaked out that the county spent \$4.2 million to buy the city’s Econo Lodge, an 85-room motel that would be used to further expand quarantine sites. Kent mayor Dana Ralph told the *Seattle Times* she was concerned that “the coronavirus is a pretext for the siting of a longer term homelessness or quarantine facility in Kent.”

By Tuesday night, concerning reports from Seattle’s hospitals started leaking out onto Reddit and Twitter. Local radio station KUOW spoke with one nurse at EvergreenHealth who said she was “100 percent certain” she was in close contact with a COVID-19 patient but that management at the hospital was

forcing her and her coworkers to continue working with other patients as long as they weren’t actively showing symptoms.

10 dead, 39 infected

On the morning of Wednesday, March 4, Seattle’s congressional delegation continued their criticisms of the Trump administration. This time, Representative Pramila Jayapal took the microphone, telling a US House of Representatives hearing that Trump’s description of the deadly virus as “a hoax” was “extremely damaging.”

“It is time to stop playing politics with this,” Jayapal said. “We are losing people’s lives as a result.”

Two hours later, public-health officials in Seattle delivered another round of bad news: The death toll had now increased to 10, and 39 people in the state had confirmed infections.

A week earlier, there was only one known case in the state. The outbreak had suddenly forced Seattle to question the gravitational pull of our city, the fabric of urban life, people mingling and mixing and creating new art and billion-dollar companies—all of that suddenly seemed associated with the threat of further transmission. The county government suggested that companies send their employees home to work remotely, that anyone sick or older than 60 should stay home entirely, and that all gatherings with more than 10 people be canceled.

King County Metro started aggressively cleaning its fleet of 1,600 buses, spraying every surface on each bus with disinfectant nightly. They also began preparing for possible reduced bus service if too many drivers got sick.

In South Lake Union, where the tech industry pays more than a billion dollars annually in wages in this neighborhood alone, things were starting to slow down by Wednesday’s evening commute. Analisa Price, a 29-year-old Amazon employee, said she had noticed more people working from home. She said people were concerned there wasn’t enough action being taken.

“The thing that stresses me out is that the CDC doesn’t seem to be very open and the testing isn’t very robust, so it seems like right now people are most nervous that they don’t know how broad the issue is,” Price said. “I feel like a lot of other countries were a lot more quick to take on containment measures, whereas here some companies are saying work from home through the end of March, but others are like, we need you here.”

A few hours after my conversation with Price, Amazon followed Google and Microsoft’s lead and told their employees to work from home.

Wednesday came to a close with Trump claiming on Fox News’ *Hannity*, the number one rated cable news show in the country, that it was fine for sick employees to go to work.

“So if, you know, we have thousands or hundreds of thousands of people that get better, just by, you know, sitting around and even going to work—some of them go to work but they get better,” Trump actually said.

11 Dead, 70 infected

By Thursday, March 5, there was firm data to support the theory that our government

had failed to test enough people. Just as testing was expanded, the number of confirmed cases mushroomed from 14 to 70, and yet another person was confirmed dead.

The 11th death was a 90-year-old woman residing at Life Care Center of Kirkland, the nursing home at the center of the crisis. Life Care had become a dystopian scene of octogenarians exposed to a deadly virus and locked inside while their family members were stuck outside. A spokesperson for Life Care told the *New York Times* that patients had gone from first symptoms to death in just a matter of a few hours: “It was surprising and shocking to us that we have seen that kind of escalation from symptoms to death.”

Schools around the region were also taking action, closing campuses and turning to digital classes. The University of Washington was continuing with business as usual, but its 50,000 students were increasingly questioning the administration’s rationale for staying open. More than 20,000 people had signed an online petition calling on the university to close.

Magdalene, a 19-year-old sophomore studying public health at UW, said when I interviewed her on campus, “In school we learn about diseases that have wiped out populations, but I’ve never really thought about it happening while we are present.”

By Thursday afternoon, the City of Seattle had declared a state of emergency. Vice President Mike Pence landed at Joint Base Lewis-McChord south of Tacoma, where he tapped elbows with the governor in lieu of shaking hands, and then assured the state that everything was going to be okay. Two hours later, the *New York Times* reported that two more people in King County had died from the virus.

15 dead, 79 infected

By the morning of Friday, March 6, the University of Washington announced that one of its employees had contracted the virus, and that it would end in-person classes for its students for the rest of the quarter. The number of global coronavirus cases passed 100,000 and 49 people died in Italy in just the last 24 hours.

Meanwhile, Larry Kudlow, Trump’s senior economic adviser, recommended Americans keep working but avoid Seattle: “That would be a place you would avoid for now,” Kudlow said in a televised interview.

In Trumpland, the virus was still a hoax. And according to the president, it had been contained. “We closed it down, we stopped it, it was a very early shutdown,” Trump told reporters the same day. And Kellyanne Conway, a close counselor to the president, told reporters that there were plenty of COVID-19 test kits available in the country and that “it is being contained.”

“We are past the point of containment,” Dr. Helen Chu, an infectious-disease specialist at University of Washington, said to the journal *Nature* on Friday morning. “So now we need to keep the people who are vulnerable from getting sick.”

Just before noon, the *Seattle Times* reported that the 12th person had died at EvergreenHealth, raising the statewide toll to 15 deaths and 79 confirmed cases. There were now more confirmed deaths in King County, population 2.1 million, than in Beijing, population 21.5 million. ■



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Free Will Astrology

BY ROB BREZSNY

March 11-17

ARIES (March 21–April 19): Giacomo Puccini's famous opera *Tosca* premiered in 1900. It featured a heroine named Tosca. In 1914, Puccini's favorite Tosca, a soprano singer named Maria Jeritza, was performing in a production at New York's Metropolitan Opera. As she got ready to sing an aria entitled "I Live for Art," she stumbled and fell. Rather than struggle awkwardly to rise, she pretended that this was all quite natural—called for in the script. She sang the entire piece while lying on the floor. Puccini loved it! Ever since then, most of the singers who have played the role of Tosca have sung "I Live for Art" while prone. I suggest you regard this as an inspirational teaching. What lucky accidents could you make into permanent additions or enhancements?

TAURUS (April 20–May 20): Taurus poet Gary Snyder said, "Three-fourths of philosophy and literature is the talk of people trying to convince themselves that they really like the cage they were tricked into entering." Personally, I think that many of us, not just philosophers and writers, do the same thing. Are you one of us? Your first assignment during the next four weeks will be to explore whether you do indeed tend to convince yourself that you like the cage you were tricked into entering. Your second assignment: If you find that you are in a cage, do everything you can to stop liking it. Third assignment: Use all your ingenuity, call on all the favors you're owed, and conjure up the necessary magic so that you can flee the cage.

GEMINI (May 21–June 20): "Your body is not a temple," declared author and celebrity chef Anthony Bourdain. "It's an amusement park. Enjoy the ride." I half-agree with him. I'm deeply devoted to regarding the body as an amusement park. It should be a source of endless fun and enjoyment. We have the right—indeed, I'd say a duty—to wield our bodies in ways that immerse us in the mysteries and miracles of pleasure. But here's where I disagree with Bourdain: I believe the body is also a temple that deserves our reverence and respect and protective tenderness. Your assignment in the coming weeks, Gemini, is to raise your commitment to treating your body as both an amusement park and a holy temple.

CANCER (June 21–July 22): Early in his career, Cancerian painter Jean-Baptiste-Camille Corot (1796–1875) sold only a few paintings. But eventually his luck improved. Once he was financially successful, he became very generous. He wielded his influence to get jobs for other artists and mentored many artists. Sometimes he added a few dabs of paint to the finished works of younger, struggling painters, and then signed the canvases with his own name so that the works could more easily be sold. The coming weeks will be a favorable time to adopt your own version of Corot's approach toward those around you who could benefit from your help and support. (P.S. It's in your selfish interest to do so, although the reasons why may not be clear for a while.)

LEO (July 23–Aug 22): Composer Brian Eno has testified that African music underlies and influences much of his work. He exults in the freedom and unpredictability it encourages. Why? Here's one reason: In African songs, there are often multiple rhythms. And they're not locked together; they float freely in relationship to each other. Eno says this is different from Western music, whose salient quality is that all the rhythmic elements are contained "in little boxes"—locked into a tyrannically mechanical clockwork pattern. According to my reading of the astrological omens, dear Leo, the coming weeks will be an excellent time for you to experiment with Eno's insight. How? Escape mechanical clockwork patterns and activate the "multiple, free-floating rhythm" metaphor in everything you do.

VIRGO (Aug 23–Sept 22): Are you interested in enhancing your mastery of togetherness? Are you open to my suggestion that you should seek out practical education about the arts of intimacy? Would you be willing to meditate on how you might bring additional creativity and flair into your close alliances? If you answered yes to those questions, the next six weeks will provide you with ample opportunities to dive in to all that fun work. "Collaboration" and "cooperation" will be words of power for you. "Synergy and symbiosis" should be your tender battle cry.

LIBRA (Sept 23–Oct 22): As you come to the climax of your Season of Good Gaffes and Lucky Bloopers, I'll remind you of folk singer Pete Seeger's definition of a "productive mistake." He said it had these five qualities: "(1) Made in the service of mission and vision, (2) acknowledged as a mistake, (3) learned from, (4) considered valuable, (5) shared for the benefit of all." Let's hope, Libra, that your recent twists and turns fit at least some of these descriptions!

SCORPIO (Oct 23–Nov 21): Would you consider making one more push, Scorpio? Can I coax you to continue your half-confusing, half-rewarding quest? Are you willing to wander even further out into the frontier and take yet another smart risk and try one additional experiment? I hope so. You may not yet be fully convinced of the value of these forays outside of your comfort zone, but I suspect you will ultimately be glad that you have chosen what's interesting over what's convenient. P.S. In the coming weeks, you could permanently expand your reservoir of courage.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov 22–Dec 21): A traditional astrologer might say that you Sagittarians typically spend less time at home than any other sign of the zodiac. Some of you folks even rebel against the idea that having a stable home is a health-giving essential. You may feel that you can't be totally free unless you always have your next jaunt or journey planned, or unless you always have a home-away-from-home to escape to. I understand and appreciate these quirks about your tribe, but I am also committed to coaxing you to boost your homebody quotient. Now would be a perfect time to do that. You're more open than usual to the joy and power of cultivating a nurturing home.

CAPRICORN (Dec 22–Jan 19): The more crooked the path, the faster you'll get to where you're going. Every apparent detour will in fact be at least a semi-valuable shortcut. Any obstacle that seems to block your way will inspire you to get smarter and more resourceful, thereby activating lucky breaks that bring unexpected grace. So don't waste even a minute cursing outbreaks of inconvenience, my dear, because those outbreaks will ultimately save you time and make life easier. (P.S. During the coming weeks, conventional wisdom will be even more irrelevant than it usually is.)

AQUARIUS (Jan 20–Feb 18): When I was a young adult, I was unskilled and indigent. Many restaurants exploited my feeble prowess at washing pots and pans and dishes, but the meager wage they paid me barely kept me fed and housed. You will perhaps understand why, now that I'm grown-up, I am averse to cleaning pots and pans and dishes, including my own. That's why I pay a helper to do that job. Is there an equivalent theme in your own life? An onerous task or grueling responsibility that oppressed you or still oppresses you? Now is a good time to find a way to declare your independence from it.

PISCES (Feb 19–March 20): I suspect your fantasy life will be especially potent in the coming weeks. Your imagination will have an enhanced power to generate visions that could eventually manifest as actual events and situations. On the one hand, that could be dicey, because you can't afford to overindulge in fearful speculations and worried agitation. On the other hand, that could be dramatically empowering, because your good new ideas and budding dreams may start generating practical possibilities rather quickly.

Homework: "In purely spiritual matters, God grants all desires. Those who have less have asked for less," wrote Simone Weil. Is that true for you? Testify at freewillastrology.com.

March 18–24

ARIES (March 21–April 19): Lyric poet and Catholic friar Luis de León taught theology at Spain's University of Salamanca from 1561 to 1571. Sadly, he offended the Inquisition when he translated the Bible's erotic poem "Song of Songs" into Spanish. As a result, he was whisked away to jail. Four years later, in a dramatic turnaround, he was freed from confinement and allowed to return to his teaching post, with a warning to be more careful in the future. To begin his first lecture, he told his students, "As we were saying yesterday..." I invite you to show the same grace and poise and amusement as you return to the groove after your break in the action.

TAURUS (April 20–May 20): Popular poet Elizabeth Barrett Browning (1806–1861) was a big fan of the popular author George Sand (1804–1876). On the occasion of their first meeting, Browning got down on her knees and reverentially kissed Sand's hand. A similar exchange had occurred decades earlier, when composer Ludwig van Beethoven knelt and kissed the hand of his hero, composer Joseph Haydn. In the coming weeks, Taurus, you can enhance your spiritual health by summoning feelings akin to those of Browning and Beethoven. You'll provide yourself with profound blessings if you overflow with admiration, appreciation, even adoration.

GEMINI (May 21–June 20): You Geminis can be scintillating friends and helpful allies. People who are lucky enough to be linked to you are often inspired to outgrow their narrow attitudes and think more imaginatively. If there is a downside to your tribe's social value, it may come through inconsistency or a lack of loyalty. In accordance with astrological omens, I will ask you to inquire whether you might sometimes be guilty of those shortcomings. If you are, please work on remedying them. Now is a favorable time to bolster the consistency and loyalty you bring to your friendships and collegial relationships.

CANCER (June 21–July 22): I believe that Cancerians like you and me require more slack and silence and spaciousness than most people. It may be inconvenient to regularly give ourselves an abundance of relaxing downtime, but that's the way we function best. Maybe other tribes can thrive on five hours of sleep per night, but most of us Crabs can't. And then there's our fundamental need to be gradual and unhurried: We need to assert our right to be that way. Having said all that, I now want to tell you that you may be able to do without your full quota of those necessary luxuries in the coming weeks. It's action time! (But don't overdo it.)

LEO (July 23–Aug 22): In March 2019, a small town in Belgium hosted the first annual European Gull Screaching Championship. Humans competed to utter cries that resemble the caws of seagulls. Some of them dressed up to resemble gulls and flapped their wings to provide even greater realism. The next contest is coming up on March 22 in De Panne, Belgium. Do you have any interest in trying out? You Leos now have an extra strong connection with your own animal intelligence. You're especially capable of calling on your instinctual powers and fostering a resonance with the natural world. I bet one of your tribe will be this year's winner. (More info: tinyurl.com/GullScreech.)

VIRGO (Aug 23–Sept 22): Do Virgo people have demons? Of course! Everyone has demons. Dealing with hard-to-manage pests running around inside our heads is a natural part of being human. I suspect they may even be essential to our well-being. And why do I make that outlandish statement? Because the demons keep us off-balance in ways that motivate us to keep trying to improve ourselves. They challenge us to continually become smarter and more resilient and resourceful. I bring these thoughts to your attention, my dear, because I expect that in the coming weeks, you'll be able to engage in some especially interesting and fruitful conversations with your demons.

LIBRA (Sept 23–Oct 22): I encourage you to invite everyone in your world to offer you blessings similar to the best blessings you're capable of dispensing. Have fun as you playfully teach your allies and cohorts how to imitate a sensitive, attentive Libra who listens well, expresses sincere curiosity, and provides helpful mirroring. Demonstrate to them the secrets of how to create harmonious outcomes, and then dare them to work that same kind of magic with you. Show them your techniques for seeking out and fostering beauty, and ask them to collaborate with you as you pursue that holy quest together.

SCORPIO (Oct 23–Nov 21): Scorpio poet Marianne Moore aspired to do "potent and accomplished work," but not merely to satisfy her ego. More importantly, she sought the sheer joy that arises from being a skilled craftsperson who offers unique understandings of the world's bounty. She said, "There is no pleasure subtler than the sensation" of being a good worker. You Scorpios now have a ripe opportunity to experience that joy and pleasure. Cosmic rhythms are motivating you to love your work more than ever before—and cultivate your desire to do so with consummate integrity.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov 22–Dec 21): Sagittarius genius William Blake (1757–1827) was unsung in his own era. But modern critics treat him as a superstar, an adept of both visionary poetry and the visual arts. London's Tate Museum just finished a major exhibition of his paintings, prints, and watercolors. I'm happy to inform you that this darling of the intellectual class behaved in ways that the modern intellectual class would regard as bizarre. For example, he believed that the spirits of dead heroes visited him while he was awake. And he insisted that he once saw God gazing at him through a window. I offer these thoughts in the hope that you'll be inspired to express both your rational brilliance and your crazy brilliance in the coming weeks. Both modes should be working quite well for you.

CAPRICORN (Dec 22–Jan 19): "Movable type" is a term that refers to the technology used to print symbols or letters on paper. In 1450, German inventor Johannes Gutenberg created a movable-type machine called the printing press that led to the mass production of books. He is rightfully regarded as an influential innovator. To be thorough in our historical understanding, though, we must note that Chinese inventor Bi Sheng printed paper books with comparable machinery beginning in 1040. I bring this to your attention as an example of how to correct old stories that are only partially true. This can be a rewarding activity as you reconfigure your own past in the coming weeks.

AQUARIUS (Jan 20–Feb 18): The imminent future will have a paradoxical quality. On the one hand, it will be a favorable phase to separate and even cut asunder influences that are joined but should no longer be joined. On the other hand, the coming weeks will be a good time to blend influences that aren't blended but should be blended. What belongs together for the good of everyone concerned? What doesn't belong together for the good of everyone concerned? Those questions should be at the forefront of your awareness. Your kind and imaginative discriminatory powers should be working at peak efficiency.

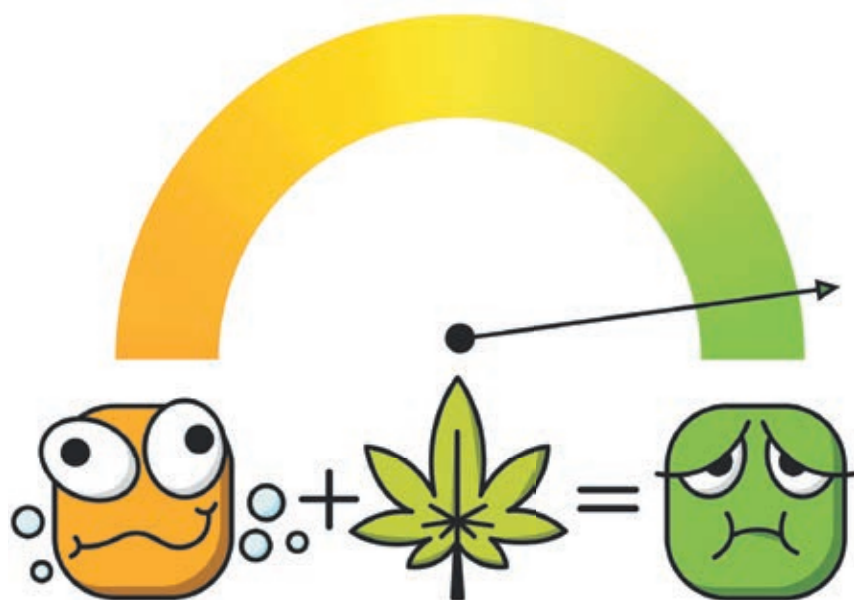
PISCES (Feb 19–March 20): Artist Pierre Bonnard had his live-in girlfriend and future wife Marthe de Méigny pose for him when he painted *Blue Nude* in 1899. Thirty-two years later, she served as his model for his painting *Nude at Her Bath*. In fact, she was his inspiration for 384 paintings, many of them while wearing no clothes. I admire their continuity, persistence, and loyalty in collaborating on this work together. I also appreciate the fact that they were able to steadily reinvent a familiar task so as to keep it interesting. These will be great virtues for you to cultivate in the coming weeks.

Homework: Do you know the difference between fear and intuition? Listen: <https://tinyurl.com/FearOrIntuition>.



Blunt Talk

BY KATIE HERZOG



THE STRANGER

Since you might be staying home and mixing drugs together...

Why Weed and Alcohol Don't Mix

We've all been there. You're drinking at home, hiding out from coronavirus while listening to *69 Love Songs* and sniffing your ex's old undershirts. You're adequately sauced, but not so drunk that you can't remember all the words to "I Don't Want to Get Over You." Then you decide that what this moment really needs is a little bit of weed.

Bad move. As I learned every single weekend from the ages of 18 to 25, the wrong mix of booze and weed can be a toxic combination. Your blood pressure will drop, your stomach will seize, your skin will turn clammy, the color will drain from your face, and the world will start spinning. And that's *before* you start puking. What seemed like a good idea at the time can quickly end with your head in the toilet if you're lucky, and in the bushes if you're not. It is, to put it mildly, *unpleasant*.

This doesn't happen to everyone. Some people can drink a handle of Jim Beam and do half a dozen dabs, and then walk in a straight line and repeat the alphabet backward. We call these people "alcoholics." But for many of us, adding weed to an already full stomach of booze can be a real party killer.

There's a pharmacological reason for that, says Scott Lukas, the director of the Behavioral Psychopharmacology Research Laboratory at Harvard, and a man who has spent his career studying the effects of combining recreational drugs.

In 1992, Lukas published a study on what happens when people drink alcohol and smoke weed, and what he found was surprising: Cannabis actually lowers the blood alcohol content by impairing the absorption of alcohol into the bloodstream. In other words, adding THC to the mix kind of sobers you up, while at the same time getting you stoned. In theory, this sounds great, but the problem is what comes next: People tend to increase their alcohol consumption if they

aren't getting as drunk as expected.

"What would somebody do if they drank three beers, which normally makes them tipsy, and all of a sudden they're not feeling it?" Lukas asked me over the phone. The answer is obvious: Drink more. And this, in turn, can lead to over-intoxication and everything that comes along with it, including the spins, the puking, and the feeling that if the world isn't ending, it should be.

Interestingly, the effects on THC levels are reversed when combined with booze, which Lukas found in a 2001 study: "When subjects smoked a marijuana cigarette and then drank, the THC concentrations skyrocketed," he told me.

It can lead to the spins, puking, and the feeling that the world is ending.

It's also less likely to make you sick if done in this order. From my extensive personal experience, this checks out, but what's the reason behind it? It has something to do with the anti-nausea effects of THC and other cannabinoids—the very things that make weed such an effective treatment for the upset stomach that can accompany chemotherapy or illness.

"It depends on the drugs, the dose, and the order in which you do it," Lukas said. "If you smoke first, you get the antiemetic [anti-vomiting] effect going on, so that if you drink too much, you won't get as nauseated."

Of course, the best way to avoid "greening out," as the phenomenon is called, is to stick with one drug or the other. "The effects are unpredictable enough when doing just one drug," Lukas said. "When you add a second drug, you add another whole dimension."

But if you're going to mix, remember this: Dosage matters. Order matters. As the old adage goes, "Drink to excess and then smoke, and the spins are no joke." ■

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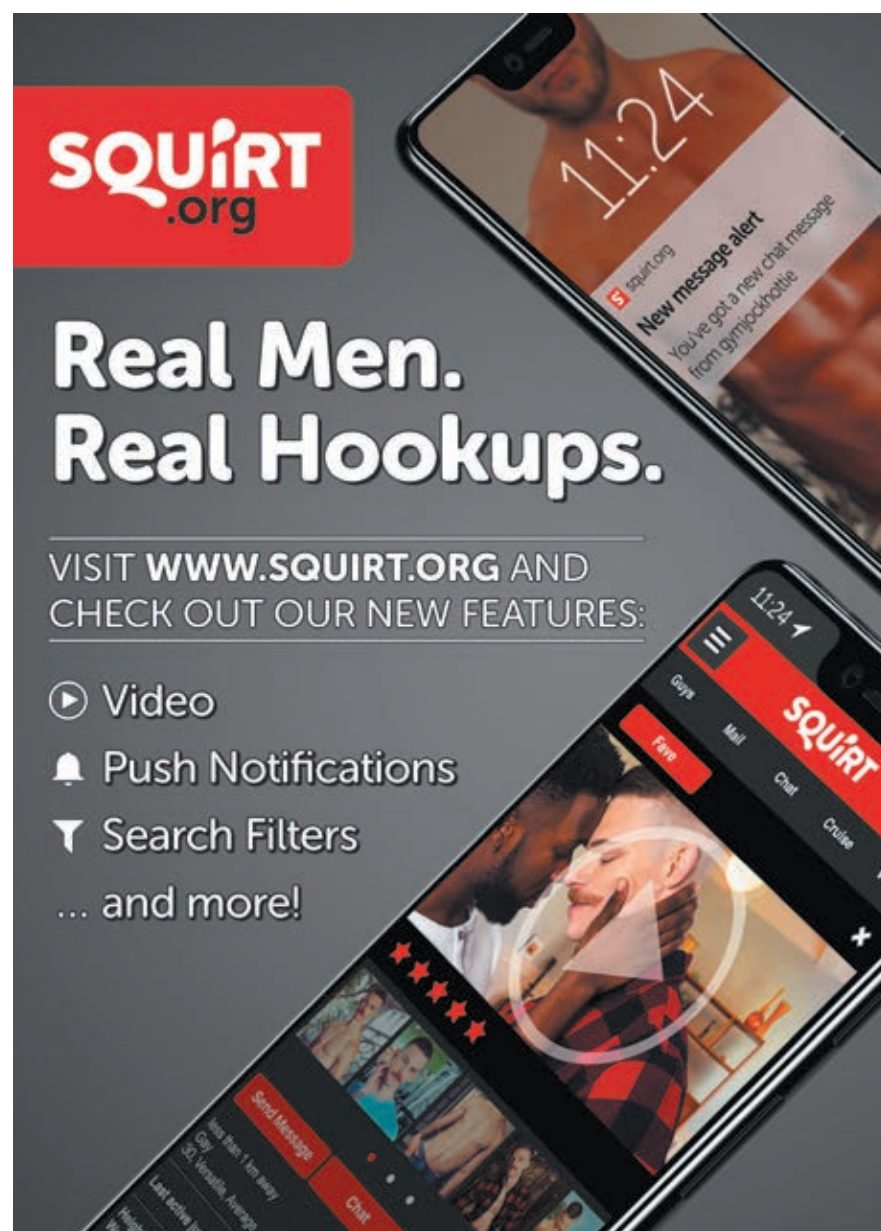
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Savage Love

BY DAN SAVAGE

Brownie Points

I'm a cis bi woman, and I mainly have sex with people with penises. I have a really gross problem, sorry. It's been an issue for as long as I've been sexually active—but in the past few years, it seems to have gotten worse. If I am being penetrated vaginally, especially if it's vigorous (which I prefer), and I orgasm, sometimes I poop accidentally. If I try to clench up to keep this from happening, it doesn't work and I can't orgasm. This used to happen once in a blue moon, only with particularly intense orgasms, but now it happens more frequently. One person I've been seeing really likes anal, and that makes the problem even worse. To be clear: I have no desire for poop in my sex life. It's gross, it's embarrassing, and my partners do not enjoy it. Nor do I. I've tried going to the bathroom before sex, but I can never seem to fully empty out. I even went to a doctor to talk about it, but all I got was a big shrug and no useful suggestions. I've looked online and found discussions of this happening to other people and them being understandably horrified, but nobody mentions it being a regular occurrence. This really sucks! Do you have any suggestions? Other than "give up sex completely," which I would prefer not to do.

Necessary Objective: Soothe Her Intestinal Tract

"I've absolutely heard of this before, and as NOSHIT already knows from internet searches, she's not alone and needs help," said Dr. Debby Herbenick. "And a 'big shrug' doesn't sound like a helpful response from a physician who you're asking for help in figuring out a complicated and extremely under-researched and therefore tricky sexual issue."

Dr. Herbenick is a professor at the Indiana University School of Public Health and author of *Because It Feels Good: A Woman's Guide to Sexual Pleasure and Satisfaction* and numerous other books. And what you're going to need, according to Dr. Herbenick, is a doctor who's actually prepared to help you. So that awkward conversation you had with your last doctor? A conversation you no doubt dreaded having? You're going to have to have that conversation again, NOSHIT, maybe more than once, with other doctors. I know, I know: Talking with your doctor about a sexual issue—particularly a messy one—is difficult. And when we finally work up the nerve to speak with a doctor about something like this and that doctor isn't helpful, our understandable desire to avoid having *that* conversation ever again can lead us to conclude that talking to doctors is a waste of time. But it isn't, so long as you're talking to the right doctor.

"The letter writer should ask her health-care provider for a referral to an urogynecologist," said Dr. Herbenick, "especially one who likes to get to the bottom (no pun intended) of challenging cases."

If this happens to you at other times—

if you poop yourself when you fart or sneeze—be sure to share that information with the specialist.

"There are lots of tests that health-care providers can use to examine her rectal function," said Dr. Herbenick. "These tests can include a digital rectal exam, a sigmoidoscopy (insertion of a tiny tube with a camera to look for issues such as inflammation), an X-ray, an anal ultrasound, a colonoscopy, or other tests. In other words, there are things other than a big and completely useless shrug that can be done. And depending on what they find, they may suggest biofeedback, surgery, physical therapy/pelvic-floor exercises, supplements, and so on."

But with all that said, NOSHIT, doctors aren't all-powerful, and some problems can only be managed and not solved.



JOE NEWTON

"The fact is, our bodies don't last forever in the ways we want them to," said Dr. Herbenick. "And some research does point toward more frequent anal intercourse being associated with fecal incontinence." (Aging, childbirth, and hormone-replacement therapy are very strongly associated with fecal incontinence.) Only a small percentage of women who regularly engaged in anal intercourse reported higher levels of fecal incontinence, NOSHIT, so if this isn't a problem for you generally—if this is only a problem during sex due to some tragically star-crossed neural wiring—you might want to steal a move from the squeaky clean gay bottoms out there. Instead of just "going to the bathroom" before sex and hoping you're empty, treat yourself to an anal douche to make sure you're empty. (Alexander Cheves wrote a great guide for receptive anal intercourse, "17 Tips for Happier, Healthier Bottoming," for the *Advocate*. Google it.)

"But finding a health-care provider who's willing to listen to what's important to her in her sex life is the first step," said Dr. Herbenick. "A sex-positive health-care provider—probably a urogynecologist or a proctologist—who's willing to hear her out can help her figure out some good ways forward. It's about listening to what quality of life means to her. That seems to include an active, pleasurable sex life involving vaginal and/or anal sex with orgasm, and without pooping, or at least not nearly so often."

Follow Dr. Herbenick on Twitter @DebbyHerbenick.

I'm a 32-year-old woman married to a 45-year-old man. We've been together for 10 years. At the beginning of our relationship, I told him smoking was a deal breaker for me because he was a former smoker. Well, the asshole started smoking again this year. I'm pissed about this, and it has affected my desire for him. This is complicated further by the fact that for most of our relationship, we've had very mismatched libidos, with mine being much higher. He has always said that I could get my needs met elsewhere, as sex just wasn't that important to him. Well, last year I started exploring extramarital relationships, and now I have a boyfriend that I'm eager to fuck. Can you guess who is now interested in fucking me? My husband, Mr. Sex Isn't Important. Turns out, he's very into fucking me after I've fucked another dude. But I only want so much sex, and I don't want to fuck a smoker. I feel obligated to have sex with my husband, though. My question is, am I? He didn't feel obligated to have sex with me more than once a month for nine years, which made me feel shitty and undesirable. (Also, we have kids. Hence the marriage and why I'm not going to leave.)

Seriously Hate Ash Mouth

You aren't obligated to have sex with your husband—you aren't obligated to have sex with anyone, ever. But I assume you don't want to be left any more than you want to leave, SHAM.

And if you refuse to fuck your husband because he broke the deal you made a decade ago—and because you're pissed about nine years of sexual neglect (legit grounds)—he might decide to leave you. So while you don't have to fuck this ash-hole, you might want to fuck this ash-hole. But until he quits smoking, you could reasonably refuse to kiss him or sleep in the same room with him. (Smokers don't realize how bad it smells—how bad *they* smell—and just how thoroughly they can stink up a room, even one they never light up in.)

One follow-up question: Did your husband always know this about himself—did he know he was turned on by the thought of you being with other dudes—or did he realize it only after you started fucking this other dude? If he knew it all along, and his encouragement to get your "needs met elsewhere" was a dishonest and manipulative attempt to force his kink on you, SHAM, you have even more right to be pissed. But if he realized this turned him on only after you started fucking other dudes—if he was as surprised by how you getting a boyfriend uncorked his libido as you were both surprised and annoyed by it—you might want to forgive him. ■

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ON THE LOVECAST

Let's think about same-sex animal behavior: savagelovecast.com.

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This Hostess Does the Mostest

Betty Wetter hosts a variety show, a trivia night, a bingo, and like a hundred other things I don't have room to list.

BY CHRISTOPHER FRIZZELLE

Betty Wetter seems like she has always existed. She's an old soul, a neighborhood character, a vision of glamour in a vintage dress.

She's usually in command of the room, because she's typically hosting whatever party it is. And she's hard to miss, because she's everywhere—from the trivia night she hosts on Queen Anne to the bingo night she hosts on Capitol Hill to the game show she hosts in Ballard to the drag variety show she hosts on Beacon Hill.

Despite appearances, she's not immortal, she doesn't exist everywhere at once, and she hasn't been here long. She's the creation of a 32-year-old from North Carolina named Scotty Cayton, who moved to Seattle in his late 20s and only started doing drag five years ago.

The name Betty Wetter is a joking reference to the fact that Cayton wet the bed until he was 17 years old. "I wet the bed for so long that I was taking sheets off my bed and putting them in the trunk of my car so that my mom wouldn't know," Cayton says. "I would go get new sheets at Kmart. It was so embarrassing."

He grew up on a tobacco farm in the middle of nowhere, fascinated by the fashion photos he saw in *Harper's Bazaar* and other grocery-store magazines. "There weren't a lot of resources at the grocery store—but once I got to high school, I went to Barnes & Noble and picked up magazines like *W*. I would sit and look through them. And without knowing what cruising was yet, I would cruise in the Barnes & Noble and try to flirt with guys."

Back home, everyone told him not to be a sissy—so moving to Seattle was a culture



STEPHEN ANUNSON

Betty Wetter hosts Tush at the Clock-Out Lounge the last Thursday of the month.

shock. He got a job as a barista and tried to adjust to his new reality. The first time he ever wore drag in public was to a show at Kremwerk. He wore a pioneer-woman dress, a white wig, and a fascinator that he'd made out of a coiled up toy snake to which he added giant fly wings.

Not long ago, Scotty gave up the coffee gig, and now Betty is his full-time job. She hosts the trivia night Betty's Body of Knowledge at Solo Bar in Lower Queen Anne every Sunday. She hosts Name That Tune at Skål Beer Hall in Ballard on second Thursdays. She hosts bingo every other Tuesday at the bar Montana (on alternating weeks, her drag sister Cookie Couture hosts), and Heels at the Cha Cha on first and third Wednesdays. And she hosts the drag variety show Tush at the Clock-Out Lounge on Beacon Hill the last Thursday of the month.

Tush is my favorite of these, and not just because the Clock-Out Lounge has that fabulous gold curtain, and not just because they serve deep-dish, focaccia pizza. Tush features four drag queens performing new numbers every time—the cast also includes Miss Texas 1988, Angel Baby Kill Kill Kill, and Beau Degas—and you never know what you're going to get. Plus resident DJ Arson Nicki, plus special guests. "It's my most successful event," Betty acknowledges. "And it's my best event, to be honest."

What makes her such a good host? "I'm good at making people feel welcome. I'm good at keeping things organized. I'm just a strong host. I don't even understand it. I just turn off and go into that mode." ■



COURTESY OF THE ARTIST

Top Picks

FRI MARCH 13

Nikki Glaser

Maybe you recall Nikki Glaser's memorable appearances at the roasts of Rob Lowe, Bruce Willis, and Alec Baldwin—she is the tall, statuesque, bubbly blonde with the potty mouth and crass observations. She was active for a rather long time before finally enjoying a come-up in the past six years. She has a pretty long résumé that includes a short-lived sex-themed Comedy Central talk show, *Not Safe with Nikki Glaser*, a stint on *Dancing with the Stars* (she was eliminated the first round in 2018), and her (first) full-length comedy special on Netflix, 2019's *Bangin'*. She opens the special with an extended bit about the horror and devastation of discovering, for the first time, what a blowjob was ("My mouth?! That's where candy

goes, I can't believe you would put a dick there!"), accepting its inevitability (like death), and then discussing all the cultural shit that goes with it. She's funny as fuck. RIYL: Amy Schumer. (*Neptune Theatre*, 7 and 9:30 pm, \$34/\$134.) **LEILANI POLK**

MARCH 13–22

'One Thousand Pieces'

This feels like private programming. I've loved everything Pacific Northwest Ballet has ever produced by Alejandro Cerrudo, the genius Spanish choreographer behind *Silent Ghost* (which was the balletic equivalent of rolling around in bed on a Sunday morning) and *Little mortal jump* (which was the balletic equivalent of a really good indie-rock show in college). So, yeah, I'm excited to see *One Thousand Pieces*, which sets his flat-out gorgeous choreography to "Knee Play 5," the best piece of music Philip Glass has ever written. The double bill includes David Dawson's sharp, athletic, and aggressive *Empire Noir*—if you missed it in

2017, make sure you catch it this time. (*McCaw Hall*, \$25–\$185.) **RICH SMITH**

MARCH 19–22

Timothy White Eagle: 'The Violet Symphony'

To all who have quietly (or quite loudly) judged an addict passed out in a doorway, I encourage you to check out Timothy White Eagle's *The Violet Symphony* at On the Boards. According to press materials, White Eagle's performance, informed by indigenous ritual, tells the story of Violet, "who died of a drug overdose behind a dumpster the day after Christmas seven years ago." Violet's panhandling "often took on [the] feeling of durational performance art, her creative impulse pushed through addiction and scarcity, or perhaps it was powered by it." By incorporating her movements into this piece, White Eagle resurrects that creative impulse and displays it on the most prestigious stage the city offers. Due to an experimental seating arrangement,



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THINGS DO → Performance

OtB isn't selling tickets online, so you'll have to e-mail them at boxoffice@ontheboards.org for more info. (*On the Boards*, \$28-\$75.) **RICH SMITH**

FRI MARCH 20

Deon Cole

Chicago-born comic and actor Deon Cole's list of TV credits is longer than Bill Cosby's rap sheet, including stints on the ABC comedy *Black-ish* and the TBS series *Angie Tribeca*. With his resonantly gruff voice, this former *Conan* writer excels at jokes about racial differences (including things he hates doing around white people) and what he calls "questions that will blow your mind," a routine that bears similarities to the cosmic/mundane absurdities of Steven Wright. Cole wonders why Adam and Eve had belly buttons: "Who cut they umbilical cords?" A white friend implored Cole to try free-range chickens, but after discovering how expensive they are, Cole says he'd rather eat stressed-out fowl. His anti-millennial rants may draw as many laughs as they will eye rolls, but Cole's hit-to-miss ratio is very high. (*Moore Theatre*, 8 pm, \$33.) **DAVE SEGAL**

SAT MARCH 21

Lewis Black

Witnessing Lewis Black unleash his explosive rage over the world's macrocosmic injustices and microcosmic annoyances is one of the most cathartic and funny phenomena in the comedy world. We mock the trope of the old (white) man yelling at clouds, but Black raises this curmudgeon shtick to a goddamn art form. The louder Black's

voice gets, the funnier his words become—like Sam Kinison, but more intellectual. There's a riveting clip of Black talking about the difference between Democrats and Republicans during the 2016 election cycle that you should hear: Spoiler alert—he's not a Trump supporter. It's pretty certain Black will dispense some similarly scathing and hilarious remarks about politicians for this show. (*Moore Theatre*, 8 pm, \$33/\$83.) **DAVE SEGAL**

MORE TheStranger.com/Theater

More Picks

1984

18th & Union, Thurs-Sun, \$15-\$28, through March 14

August Wilson's 'Jitney'

Seattle Repertory Theatre, \$17-\$87, through March 29

Contact on First Hill: An Evening of High Strangeness

Museum of Museums, Fri March 13, 6 pm, \$10-\$20

Matchelor in Paradise

Jet City Improv, March 21-May 9, Sat, 10 pm, \$17/\$18

Minority Retort in Seattle Presents: Keith Johnson

Jai Thai, Sat March 14, 9 pm

Miscast

Rendezvous, Fri March 20, 7 pm, \$10/\$14

Moisture Festival 2020

Hale's Palladium, March 12-April 5, \$22-\$38

Pipeline

Seattle Public Theatre, March 20-April 12, \$34

Raisins in a Glass of Milk 2020

ACT Theatre, March 20-23, \$20

Sister Act

The 5th Avenue Theatre, March 13-April 5

Sweat

ACT Theatre, March 20-April 12, \$27-\$45


Troilus and Cressida

Center Theatre, March 17-April 12, \$50

MORE EVENTS TheStranger.com/EventOut

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My Dad Wrote a Porno

The hilarious hit podcast brings its live show to Seattle.

BY KATIE HERZOG

When British TV writer Jamie Morton's father handed him a book of erotica that he had written in a shed in his garden, the natural reaction on the part of the son would have been to burn the book, change his name, move across the world, and never speak to his father again.

And who could have blamed him? The book follows a young woman named Belinda as she fucks her way through a fictional company called Steeles Pots & Pans. Morton's dad gave himself the pen name "Rocky Flintstone." While Flintstone has actually fathered children, his pornography reads like someone who has never encountered a woman in real life, much less touched one.

Instead of disowning his father, Morton took his dad's pornography novel down to the pub, where he read it aloud to his friends James Cooper and Alice Levine. "We thought: This is hilarious and maybe other people would find it funny, too," Cooper told me in a phone interview. This idea grew into a podcast, which, much to their surprise, has become a major hit all over the world, with legions of fans who call themselves "Belinkers."

The premise of the podcast is simple: Morton reads a chapter from his dad's pornography, and the three crack jokes between sentences. It's both cringe inducing (Flintstone tends to use the word "moist" a lot) and very, very funny—in part because the friends so clearly enjoy each other's company.

The podcast now has more than 200 million downloads. They've had celebrities like Emma Thompson, Lin-Manuel Miranda, and Elijah Wood on the show, they've created an HBO special and a book, and they are now on their second world tour.

"You would never think when your dad



COURTESY OF MDWAP

Jamie Morton, center, first read his dad's pornography aloud to his friends Alice Levine, left, and James Cooper, in a pub.

A typical passage may refer to "steaming vaginas" or breasts like "pomegranates."

hands you this terrible erotica that he's been writing in the garden shed that one day it will take you to Radio City Music Hall," Morton said.

While it may be natural to assume that Morton's father would be embarrassed by

a global audience laughing at his creative genius, that's not the case. "The great thing about my dad is that he's got such a great sense of humor," Morton said. "And the fact that this has gotten so big, he finds it even more hilarious, like it's just the best practical joke ever. But he still thinks that he is a great writer. He still lives in that little bubble."

"What's going on in Rocky's head is always a dangerous thing to guess at," Levine added. "But he's said to us in the past, you'll understand when you're older, like, 'When you're a grown-up, you'll get it.' I don't know how old he thinks we are now. We're all in our 30s, but he seems to think it's going over

our heads."

While Belinda's exploits may not be sexy to the cohosts, they said that some people literally get off on it. "We've had couples tell us that they'll listen to an episode and do whatever happens in the episode," Morton said. "Isn't that horrible?"

A typical passage may refer to "steaming vaginas," breasts like "pomegranates," and, in one particularly memorable scene, nipples "as large as the three-inch rivets which had held the hull of the fateful *Titanic* together." It may not be sexy, but it is hilarious—and their live show promises to be just as joyously unhinged. ■

Top Picks

DAILY

Elliott Bay Book Company

You should stock up on your reading list before you're quarantined. Elliott Bay Book Company is Seattle's version of biblio-metropolises such as New York City's the Strand and Portland's Powell's. But instead of walking around a cold, cosmopolitan store, you get to walk around a warm, spacious, creaky tree house. Their selection of books is absolutely top-notch. The cafe is in the back and has plenty of outlets, plus good cake. Four comfy chairs sit in the center of the store,

right next to the well-curated poetry section and the well-populated fiction section. The children's area is great. The basement hosts daily readings from big-time and medium-time and small-time authors. It's part marketplace, part cathedral, part kitchen, all home. (1521 10th Ave) **RICH SMITH**

MON MARCH 16

Census 2020: Why It Matters and What You Can Do

Every 10 years, the US government takes a head count of every person living in the country. Making sure you get counted is one of your more important civic responsibilities. They didn't tell us this in high school, but census data ultimately



LIVESLOW / GETTY IMAGES

determines the borders of your own political community and the amount of money that community receives in federal subsidies. Food stamps, public housing funds, Medicaid dollars, Section 8 housing

vouchers, Head Start money, school breakfast, highways—all of that funding is distributed based on census data. An undercount means your community gets less of this funding than it needs, which sucks for everybody. Racism, xenophobia, administrative laziness, and threatening to put a citizenship question on the census form contribute to undercounts. And as you might suspect, our bad president has increased the prevalence of all those factors. But former Washington governor Gary Locke, who oversaw the census in 2010 and who honorarily chairs the King County Complete Count Committee, is here with a nice talk that explains how the census matters in our lives and what we can do to make sure everyone—including

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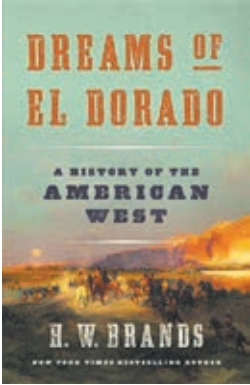
THINGS TO DO → Books & Talks

our very own selves—gets counted. (*Town Hall*, 7:30 pm, \$5.) **RICH SMITH**

TUES MARCH 17

H.W. Brands: ‘A History of the American West’

The idea that the American West is the land of freedom dreams and the trying grounds for rugged individuals still resonates in the minds of Americans. Just ask Ammon and Cliven Bundy, who, for reasons we know all too well, continue to not be in jail for their cowboy cosplay. In his new history of the region, *Dreams of El Dorado: A History of the American West*, Pulitzer Prize finalist and University of Texas at Austin professor H.W. Brands helpfully continues the work of busting up that dumb, grand narrative. In a “lucid, fluent narrative,” according to one *Kirkus* reviewer, Brands centers his historical account on the figures of Teddy Roosevelt and Oglala Lakota leader Black Elk, plus the underreported story of illegal white immigration into Texas in the 1820s. Brands’s chapters on the ironies and paradoxes of the West should be particularly illuminating. (*Town Hall*, 7:30 pm, \$5.) **RICH SMITH**



SAT MARCH 21

Washington’s Undiscovered Feminists

To commemorate the 100th anniversary of women securing the right to vote in this country, arts writer Mayumi Tsutakawa chronicles the lives and accomplishments of five local geniuses you may not have heard about in school. You’ll learn of Imogen Cunningham, a chemist and acclaimed photographer who took pics of movie

stars without makeup before it was cool; Ruby Bishop, a jazz legend who toured with Cab Calloway and Duke Ellington, and ended up ticking the ivories at Vito’s well into her 90s; artist Priscilla Chong Jue, who ran local shops specializing in textiles; journalist and socialist Seattle School Board member Anna Louise Strong, who led hiking parties to Mount Rainier’s summit in her spare time; and the great linguist Vi Hilbert, who was named a Living Treasure in 1989 in part for preserving one of the primary Coast Salish languages. (*Cascadia Art Museum, Edmonds*, 1 pm, free.) **RICH SMITH**

MORE

TheStranger.com/Books

More Picks

- 2019–20 Hugo Fellows Mid-Year Reading**
Hugo House, Wed March 25, 7 pm, free
- Bernardine Evaristo: Girl Woman Other**
Langston Hughes Performing Arts Institute, Mon March 23, 7 pm, free
- Hidden Wild: Secrets of the Everglades (National Geographic Live)**
Benaroya Hall, March 22–24, \$28–\$50
- Katie Roiphe: The Power Notebooks**
Town Hall, Tues March 24, 7:30 pm, \$5
- Laurie Halse Anderson**
Third Place Books Lake Forest Park, Sat March 14, 6 pm, free
- Mark Petterson with Rebecca Brown**
Elliott Bay Book Company, Sat March 14, 7 pm, free
- Matt Ruff: 88 Names**
Elliott Bay Book Company, Tues March 17, 7 pm, free
- Min Jin Lee**
Benaroya Hall, Tues March 17, 7:30 pm, \$20–\$80
- Neil Shubin: Decoding Four Billion Years of Life**
Town Hall, Wed March 25, 7:30 pm, \$5
- Rick Barot**
Broadway Performance Hall, Thurs March 19, 7:30 pm, \$20–\$80 (sold out)
- Susanna Ryan: Seattle Walk Report**
Seattle Public Library, Southwest Branch, Thurs March 12, 6 pm, free
- Velvet Sweatshops and Algorithmic Cruelty: Labor in the Global Tech Economy**
Town Hall, Thurs March 12, 7:30 pm, free
- Watching the Arctic Melt Away**
Town Hall, Tues March 17, 7 pm, free

MORE EVENTS

TheStranger.com/EverOut

Early Warnings

- JAMES MCBRIDE: DEACON KING KONG**
Town Hall, Mon March 30, 7:30 pm, \$35–\$40
- NK JEMISIN: THE CITY WE BECAME**
Town Hall, Wed April 1, 7:30 pm, \$35/\$40
- ADAM JOHNSON: THE ART OF LISTENING**
Hugo House, Thurs April 2, 7 pm, \$15/\$30
- CAROLYN FORCHÉ** *Elliott Bay Book Company, Thurs April 2, 7 pm, free*
- MONICA LEWINSKY: THE PRICE OF SHAME**
Kane Hall Room 130, Thurs April 2, 7:30 pm, \$5
- ROSS MATHEWS: ‘NAME DROP’ BOOK TOUR**
Neptune Theatre, Thurs April 2, 8 pm, \$34–\$99
- LINDY WEST & SAMANTHA IRBY: HEAVY FLOW** *Benaroya Hall, Sun April 5, 7:30 pm, \$25–\$75*
- THE DAVE HOLLIS BOOK TOUR** *Neptune Theatre, Thurs April 9, 8 pm, \$34/\$74*
- FROM COLD WAR TO HOT PEACE: AN AMERICAN AMBASSADOR IN PUTIN’S RUSSIA** *Kane Hall Room 130, Thurs April 30, 7:30 pm, free*
- SHAUN KING: MAKE CHANGE BOOK TOUR** *Town Hall, Thurs May 7, 7 pm, free*



NK Jemisin

LAURA HANIFIN

Stoned Space

Get high before you see *Love Bite* at the Frye Art Museum.

BY CHARLES MUDEDE

Those who remember the vaginal Spaceship of the Imagination in Carl Sagan's 1980 show *Cosmos* will experience a Proustian moment upon entering Agnieszka Polska's video installation *The Happiest Thought* at the Frye Art Museum.

Polska is a Polish artist based in Warsaw and Berlin. Her current show at the Frye is called *Love Bite*. It has two parts. One part consists of two videos of a blinking sun that

**AGNIESZKA
POLSKA: LOVE
BITE**

Frye Art Museum
Through April 19

talks a lot and brings to mind a creepy character in a children's show. The second part of the exhibit occupies a large black

space that has a huge screen and a collection of soft foam furniture. This is the part of the installation that recalls the Spaceship of the Imagination, the spaceship the most popular scientist of the second half of the 20th century, Carl Sagan, traveled through space in.

But whereas Sagan explored galaxies, stars, planets, and moons known to the science of his time, Polska's spaceship in *The Happiest Thought* explores cultural and historical spaces.



The video installation *'The Happiest Thought'* leads us out into the heart of the solar system.

At one moment, we are passing through a belt not of asteroids but of swirling hammers, nails, keys, and cans of paint (what remains of a blasted Anthropocene). Another moment, we are watch-

ing the evolution of continents on earth during the period of the Great Dying, which happened 250 million years ago and which scientists call the Permian-Triassic extinction event. (No one knows

for sure what caused it, but we are, of course, in the process of another extinction event that is obviously caused by humans.)

At another moment in *The Happiest Thought*, we are on earth looking up at giant dragonflies flying through a blue sky. At another, bubbles are floating up to the surface of a blue sea.

In the Spaceship of the Imagination, Sagan was the coolheaded guide through the spectacle of stars and the vast stretches of empty space. In *The Happiest Thought*, Geo Wyeth—a queer, trans American performance artist—is the guide. Wyeth leads us out of the belt of human stuff and transports us to the heart of the human solar system, which is not the sun but the third planet orbiting the star. His talking voice is so seductive and soothing—but when he sings, you can hear and feel in your being something that's like the deepest part of the universe.

All in all, the experience of this installation is perfected by a mind that is properly stoned. And guess what? We live in a state that legalized weed. So take a deep drag or two of a joint, walk into the Frye, lie down on the black foam, and float through the life and death of our sentient universe. ■

Top Picks 'Conscious Collaboration with Spirit'

BY JASMYNE KEIMIG

Curated by Seattle-based artist Leah Nguyen, *Conscious Collaboration with Spirit* at SOIL unites artists from around the country whose art practice involves a "collaboration with spirit," as they call it. "Artists have long worked with the spiritual realm," writes Nguyen. "Some collaborate unknowingly and some consciously. Inspiration is the most common mode of collaboration—opening yourself to what 'wants' to be made." Nguyen tells me that for this show, she wanted to create a space where artists could be vocal about their work's



COURTESY OF LEAH NGUYEN

relationship to their spirituality without judgment or skepticism.

There is no shared way that any of the seven artists access their spiritual selves or other spiritual beings. When starting a painting, Nguyen asks her "spiritual collaborators" a series of complex yes/no questions using a matrix in order to guide her. Los Angeles-based painter Jean Nagai gets into meditative, half-waking states to create his giant, balmy, abstract compositions. Sara Long sits out in nature for long periods of time, observing plants and stones communicating with each other, which she then records in her drawings and paintings. Both sculptor Emily Counts and painter Elizabeth Traina use inquiry-based processes—Counts with her higher self, and Traina with a spirit collective. While Nicholas Nyland senses when a work has a life of its own, Hayley Barker draws from her time as a witch, using both spells and prayer in her collaboration with spirit.

Each piece in the show shimmers with a type of energy and magnetism that feels like it is beaming in from another dimension. And, despite the difference in medium, they all fit within a similar color palette—light blues, pinks, oranges, and lavenders, the colors of a sunset. I've long been a fan of Nagai's vibrant, emotional naturescapes, which are composed of tiny dots. And Barker's just barely figurative drawings and paintings of reclining nudes, faces, and landscapes are composed with gnarly greens and bright yellows

that seem to radiate off the page and directly into your eyeballs.

Although the concept behind the show might sound a bit woo-woo, I think that regardless of your feelings about spirituality, the show invites reflection on your relationship to your own creative and artistic practices. We all have ways of communing with our internal selves and memory in regards to how we create things or approach our work. This group show asks its artists to vocalize and give voice to that source of inspiration, which they do extraordinarily well. (On view through Sat March 28, SOIL, Thurs–Sun, free.)

CLOSING THURS MARCH 26

'As, Not For'

Contributions by African Americans to the field of graphic design have often been overlooked. This exhibit acts as an "incomplete historical survey" of Black designers' work. Taking inspiration from Alain Locke's seminal 1925 book of critique *The New Negro* and a small multidisciplinary exhibition from the 1970s called *Ritual: Baptismal in Black, As, Not For* questions the ubiquity of whiteness in the designed world and what it means for Black "expressive design practice" to be excluded from the field. You can expect to see printed ephemera made by Black designers like Art Sims, Laini (Sylvia) Abernathy, and Emory Douglas that have been scaled up to poster size. (Jacob Lawrence Gallery, Tues–Sat, free.) JASMYNE KEIMIG

CLOSING SAT APRIL 18

Alison Stigora: 'shelter/unshelter'

Seattle artist Alison Stigora creates gigantic sculptures that are constructed of coastal driftwood or galvanized steel, often filling up the gallery space and overpowering the viewer with their presence. Her work doesn't seek to shrink itself or provide easy answers, but rather forces viewers to interact with it. In this immersive installation, Stigora explores the relationship between humans and our environment by creating a piece made of driftwood and steel that can be inhabited by multiple people at once. (Method Gallery, Fri–Sat, free.) JASMYNE KEIMIG

MORE

TheStranger.com/Art

More Picks

Dawn Cerny in Residence
Oxbow, March 20–April 13,
daily, free

Del Barrio: Contemporary Latin Art by Dovey Martínez and Nico Inzerella
Vermillion, March 12–April 4, Tues–Sat, free

Elise Peterson, Lavett Ballard, Jamaal Hasef, Lisa Jarrett
Wa Na Wari, March 14–May 10, Fri–Sun, free

Guy Colwell: Miniatures
March 14–April 8,
Fantagraphics Bookstore and Gallery, daily, free

Lotería Art Exhibition
Nepantla Cultural Arts Gallery, March 14–April 8, Wed–Sun, free

MORE EVENTS

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G. LOVE & SPECIAL SAUCE WITH JONTAVIOUS WILLIS MARCH 21 – 8:30PM	DABIN WITH AUS, NURKO, LAST HEROES APRIL 5 – 8:00PM	L'IMPÉRATRICE APRIL 14 – 8:30PM	THE LOCUST & NAPALM DEATH WITH THE ACCUSED, NASTIE BAND APRIL 15 – 7:30PM
JOJO APRIL 21 – 8:00PM	WATSKY WITH GRIEVES, FEED THE BIRDS MAY 8 – 9:00PM	JOYWAVE MAY 10 – 8:00PM	AGAINST ME! & BARONESS WITH DESTROY BOYS MAY 11 – 8:30PM
CHICANO BATMAN WITH LE BUTCHERETTES MAY 15 – 8:30PM	TOKIMONSTA MAY 16 – 9:00PM	IONNALEE WITH TUNGORNA MAY 19 – 8:00PM	MXMTOON WITH VERZACHE MAY 20 – 7:30PM

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MURA MASA WITH DEB NEVER APRIL 23 – 8:00PM	MEDASIN MAY 1 – 9:00PM	TWO FEET WITH RIZ LA VIE MAY 2 – 8:30PM	EMANCIPATOR ENSEMBLE MAY 9 – 9:00PM
THE GLITCH MOB WITH IVY LAB MAY 15 – 9:00PM	COHEED AND CAMBRIA WITH CHON MAY 19 – 7:30PM	CIRCA SURVIVE WITH POLYPHIA, GOUGE AWAY MAY 20 – 7:30PM	BAYSIDE WITH SENSES FAIL, HAWTHORNE HEIGHTS, CAN'T SWIM JUNE 27 – 7:00PM

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Why Bhutanese guitarist Tashi Dorji and Ghanaian singer Ata Kak are must-see shows.

BY DAVE SEGAL

This month, adventurous music heads in Seattle have the chance to see an experimental guitarist from Bhutan (Tashi Dorji) and a quirky rapper/singer from Ghana (Ata Kak). I hope you realize how good we have it here sometimes.

First, let's talk about Dorji. But before that, a little prologue: In 1991, a tiny American indie label released a compilation titled *Guitarrorists*, featuring Sonic Boom, Helios Creed, Kim Gordon, Steve Albini, and more. It encompassed dozens of guitar players doing myriad interesting things with an in-

TASHI DORJI,
AARON TURNER
Sun March 22,
Royal Room, 6 pm, \$15
adv/\$17 DOS, all ages

ATA KAK
Tues March 24,
Sunset Tavern, 9 pm,
\$20, 21+

strument that's most associated with rock music. If somebody were to organize a sequel to *Guitarrorists*, Tashi Dorji would have to be included.

A Bhutanese immigrant residing in Asheville, North Carolina, Dorji wrings sparse, spidery tones from his ax, which makes him sound as if he's slyly flipping the bird to Western notions of tuning and harmony. Fracture and unpredictability prevail in his work, with his compositions unspooling into pieces of messy beauty. His 2016 collab with percussionist Tyler Damon, *Both Will Escape*, was one of the year's most fascinating releases, showcasing Dorji's noisier, more chaotic tendencies. It's my favorite work by Dorji, as it provides a brilliant contrast between Damon's array of unusual percussive timbres and rhythms and Dorji's expansive approach to an instrument that's rarely used to challenge nowadays.

Another Damon collab, 2018's *Soft Berm*, comes off like a duet between Sonny Shar-



COURTESY OF THE ARTIST

Vintage Ata Kak, circa the Ghanaian dance-rap artist's 1990s heyday.

rock and Rashied Ali with its strafing, soaring microaggressions. And speaking of those free-jazz giants, Dorji's trio KUZU, with Damon and saxophonist Dave Rempis, offers

another forum on *Lift to Drag* for the guitarist to unleash his garrulous vocabulary of six-string expressionism: rusty clangs, contemplative tone clusters, pointillistic

ripples, articulate scrapes.

And if you need an indie-rock connection to get with Dorji, check 2019's *Midden* with Deerhoof guitarist John Dieterich. It's difficult to discern who's doing what here, but this is improv as cantankerous dialogue, an episodic ordeal of controlled chaos, nuanced noise explosions, and tense squawks. If all that's too raucous for you, lay ears on 2018's *but a night that ends, as all nights end, when the sun rises*, which finds Dorji creating an intriguing interior guitarscape on his acoustic with repetitive, skeletal motifs. It's the aural equivalent of a pencil sketch on papyrus.

For something completely different, Ghana's Ata Kak (aka Yaw Atta-Owusu) brings you an idiosyncratic blend of hip-hop, house, and highlife. In 1985, the African musician moved to Germany, where he became obsessed with the music of Stevie Wonder, Michael Jackson, the Staple Singers, and disco artists such as KC and the Sunshine Band. There he created his sole album, 1994's *Obaa Sima*. Thankfully, Ata Kak is blessed with creative impulses that twist these common elements into something quite uncommon.

The Awesome Tapes from Africa label rescued *Obaa Sima* from obscurity by reissuing it on LP and CD in 2015. It's a seven-track bundle of kooky joy, buoyant rhythms, and infectious vocal interplay. Ata Kak sounds like he gulped helium and popped some trucker speed before taking the mic, as he trades lines with adorable backing crooner Lucy Quansah. You'll want to dance, but your chuckles may throw off your moves. The vibe is somewhere between Gary Wilson and Wesley Willis, but with a more acute awareness of keeping the floor moving—and laughing. What a rare breed of charmer Mr. Kak is. ■

Top Picks

THURS MARCH 12



Dorian Electra

CHARLOTTE RUTHERFORD

Dorian Electra, Alice Longyu Gao

ROCK/POP Dorian Electra's early career material included economist pop (like 2010 single "I'm in Love with Friedrich Hayek," a celebration of the Austrian economist, and 2011's "Roll with the

Flow [My Date with Keynes]"). And later, a series of catchy, cheeky songs/videos for women's lifestyle website Refinery29 on the history of feminism, high-heeled shoes, drag, vibrators, and, my personal fave, the clitoris (sample verse: "In 3-D / The clit was mapped architecturally / To the world's surprise / It was found to be 10 times its size"). Lately, the pop and performance artist with neon hair, painted-on pencil mustache, and gothic dom-meets-Ren-faire outerwear has been drawing on their own experiences. They told Bullett Media in 2016 that "Mind Body Problem" was about "femininity as a performance—when being a 'woman' feels like putting on a costume, and the costume doesn't seem to come off with the clothes." Electra's 2019 self-released debut LP, *Flamboyant*, discusses masculine archetypes and issues from a gender-fluid perspective, adding a healthy dash of campiness to tunes like glamour-hyped "Guyliner" and biblical spoof "Adam & Steve," the

latter's YouTube video tagged with an 18-plus age restriction for no discernible reason. ("There is no nudity, no 'inappropriate language,' no gratuitous violence..." Electra tweeted recently, "maybe just offensive because it's gay af?"). (*Crocodile*, 7 pm, all ages, \$18/\$20.) **LEILANI POLK**

FRI MARCH 13

Acid Tongue, Monsterwatch, Frond

ROCK/POP With two EPs, a couple world tours, and 2017 debut full-length *Babies* under their belt, the fuzzed-out garagesters of Seattle's Acid Tongue are set to drop nine more tabs of psych-pop anthems in their upcoming sophomore melter *Bullies*. In order to substantially flambé their album-release party, Acid Tongue have dynamically rounded up the local punk horrors of Monsterwatch and the dream-pop tranquilizers of Frond to concoct a mind-blending cocktail of stage-warming. Extrapolating from the

"Follow the Witch" and "Walk Don't Run" singles—and especially the LP's title track—*Bullies* reveals the continued mastery of Guy Keltner and Ian Cunningham's blistering, tastefully-nostalgic-yet-now sound and idiosyncratic wanderings into some overarching commentary on society at large. (*Tractor Tavern*, 9 pm, \$12.) **ZACH FRIMMEL**

Palehound, Adult Mom, Emma Lee Toyoda

ROCK/POP Led by vocalist and guitarist Ellen Kempner, Boston-based trio Palehound make soulful, jangly indie rock marked by Kempner's sincere and intimate lyrics. On the bedroom-vibing, guitar-driven "Room," she croons: "She come over / Growing like a clover / In my roooooom." Their most recent release, 2019's *Black Friday*, is sonically more fleshed out with the addition of synthesizers, drum machines, and reverby old West guitars on

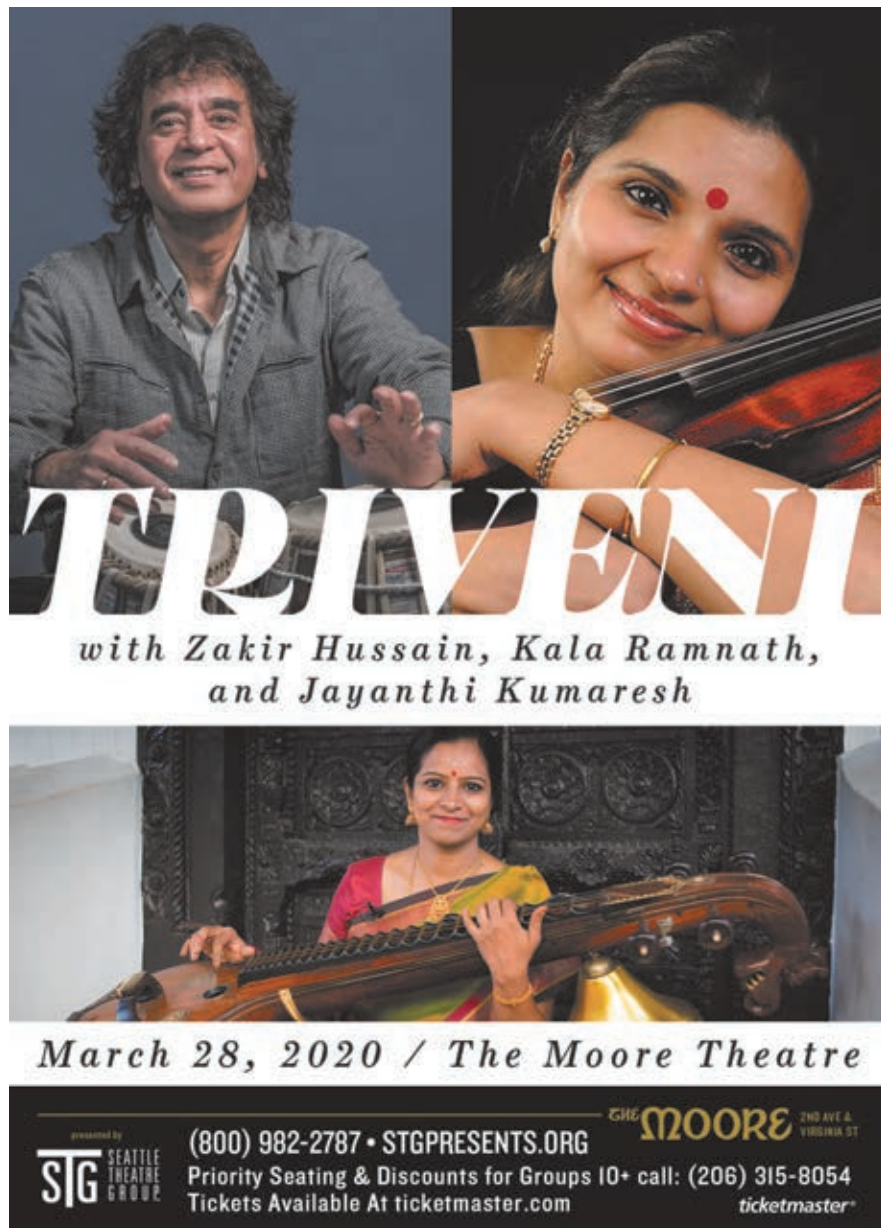


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songs like “Killer.” Bedroom-pop project Adult Mom and local favorite Emma Lee Toyoda open. (Sunset Tavern, 9 pm, \$15.) **JASMINE KEIMIG**

SAT MARCH 14



POONEH GHANA

Glass Animals

ROCK/POP Glass Animals enjoyed their mainstream US alt-rock radio rise with sexy-caressing youth-love single “Goosey” off 2014’s *Zaba*, which found lead singer, songwriter, and producer Dave Bayley crooning in his distinctively silky, stealthy, and mysterious vocal about peanut-butter vibes and tipsy-topsy slurs against a beat with decided tropical percussion and jungle textures. This is a sonic theme they’ve returned to over the years, most recently in “Your Love (Déjà Vu),” a catchy new single with a skittering, dance-inducing beat and samples that sound like fluttering animal cries. The electro-psychedelic pop quartet took a break in mid-2018, as drummer Joe Seaward recovered from an accident that left him with brain damage (he was hit by a truck while riding his bicycle and had to learn to walk, talk, and read again). But they’re back on the road behind that single (with a third LP to come later), and playing dates at some intimate venues. (*Neumos*, 9 pm, all ages, \$35–\$40 (sold out).) **LEILANI POLK**

SUN MARCH 15

Califone, Windoe

ROCK/POP If you equate “roots” music with staid traditionalism, Califone will change your outlook. For the last 22 years, the Chicago collective has been fraying said roots into songs that spring out of folk, blues, and rock, yet they become otherized through guitarist/vocalist Tim Rutili’s skewed sensibility. Not too different from that of his old band, Red Red Meat, Califone’s music is redolent of the urban junkyard, the Alan Lomax archives, the orch-rock ghetto, and morose troubadourism. Rutili’s weathered drawl adds a crucial grit and pathos to these alluringly rickety compositions; low-key, he’s one of rock’s most soulful singers. Califone’s 12th album, *Echo Mine*, is another subtle tweak of the unconventional methods that brought them to this poignant point. (Sunset Tavern, 8 pm, \$15.) **DAVE SEGAL**

Lupe Fiasco

HIP-HOP/RAP Before I actually listened to the lyrics, I thought “Kick, Push” (the first single off Lupe Fiasco’s 2006 debut full-length, *Food & Liquor*) was about climbing and striving to get to the top, then relaxing and coasting as your hard work pays off. In reality, it’s about skateboarding, a love story between two misfits on wheels—and goddamn is it ever an earworm, built on the sweeping

symphonics from Celeste Legaspi’s 1982 song “Bolero Medley,” with an added bumpin’ beat and Lupe’s raps gliding over the top. “Daydreamin’” is that album’s other single, a Grammy winner and an obvious jam that taps “Daydream in Blue” by I Monster and features Jill Scott belting the chorus. These tracks will be performed amid the entirety of *Food & Liquor* for the socially conscious rapper’s Seattle stop. According to press materials, his fans were asking for it and the “time finally felt right” for a full album presentation, although it feels more like creative procrastination—his not-so-unconscious way of putting off finishing *Skulls*, the eighth album that he’s claimed will herald his retirement. (*Showbox Soda*, 8 pm, all ages, \$35/\$40.) **LEILANI POLK**

Tamino

ROCK/POP I was drawn to Belgian model, singer, and musician Tamino because his voice reminded me of Thom Yorke—haunting, elegantly emotive, able to reach falsetto heights with seeming ease. The artist otherwise known as Tamino-Amir Moharam Fouad (grandson of renowned Egyptian singer and film star Muharram Fouad) can carry an entire track on the strength of his exquisite vocal, which has a more velvety quality than Yorke’s and can hit rather low notes too. His singing is backed by restrained instrumentals with classical ambient-electro embellishments. The beats are often languid but can rise in urgency, and occasionally reflect the influence of his Arabic background. *Amir*, his full-length debut, is subtle, dark, and mesmerizing. Listen to “Habibi” and fall in love. (*Barboza*, 8 pm, \$19/\$21.) **LEILANI POLK**

TUES MARCH 17

UMI

SOUL/R&B Born in Seattle but currently based in Los Angeles, Tierra Umi Wilson, aka UMI, makes bedroom R&B—a heady mix of lo-fi, sexy beats and longing lyrics—amid simultaneously clocking hours as a student at University of Southern California. Riding high off her tour with fellow zoomer and internet sensation Cuco last summer, UMI released *Love Language*, a sweet and condensed (four-song) EP. The tracks speak to her strengths as a musician and augur a bright future to come. The mid-tempo “Runnin’,” a collab with rapper Yeek, is perfectly melancholic. Be sure to listen to her Japanese language song “Sukidakara,” which proves she owns in any language. (*Columbia City Theater*, 8 pm, all ages, \$18/\$20.) **JASMINE KEIMIG**

WED MARCH 18

Drive-By Truckers, Kelsey Waldon

ROCK/POP It’s another disconcerting election year, and so the 2020 music-political climate is pretty much guaranteed to be rife with subtle and not-so-subtle demonstrations of dissent. Twenty-four years into their croon-country catalog, Athens, Georgia-brewed Drive-By Truckers (the launchpad of now solo artist Jason Isbell) have unspooled yet another delicately developed deluge of disruption filed under their 12th studio album, *The Unraveling*. Two shimmering exclamations appear back-to-back on the nine-track credo—“Stick it up your ass with your useless thoughts and prayers” (from “Thoughts and Prayers”) and “If Amazon can deliver salvation, I’ll order it on my phone” (“21st Century America”). Joined by Nashville’s neotraditional Kelsey Waldon, the night should carry the twang of spitfire from open to close. (*The Showbox*, 8:30 pm, \$30/\$35.) **ZACH FRIMMEL**



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ANDY TENNILLE

SAINT JHN

HIP-HOP/RAP The music of SAINT JHN is an interesting blend of hip-hop and soca music, largely an influence of his Guyanese heritage. The result is a bass-slapping, trap-influenced set of tracks with a subtle undercurrent of bright, island melodies. Getting his start as a songwriter for musicians like Usher, the Brooklyn-based artist has since created his own pocket in the hip-hop world, collaborating with big names like Lenny Kravitz on “Borders,” which blurs the line between the turn-up and the turn-down. (*Neptune Theatre, 8 pm, all ages, \$25/\$28.*) **JASMYNE KEIMIG**

Häused x Depth: Julian Jeweil

ELECTRONIC A French techno producer/DJ with releases on prestigious outlets such as Drumcode, Cocoon, and Richie Hawtin’s Minus label, Julian Jeweil regularly appears near the top of electronic-music retailer Beatport’s charts. But his popularity doesn’t equal mainstream blandness. On the contrary: Jeweil’s predominant style is driving, psychedelic techno that pummels your third ear and sends your pulse skyrocketing. Like the best in his field, Jeweil knows how to leverage a few elements in a track to fuck with your mind and buoy your body to the max. (*Kremwerk, 10 pm, \$14.*) **DAVE SEGAL**

MARCH 18–19

Wilco, Young Fresh Fellows

ROCK/POP Last December, Chicago alt-rock band Wilco opened a pop-up shop full of apparel, paraphernalia, bobbleheads, engraved pencils, and exclusive records to coincide with the band’s hometown “Winterlude” concert series. It would be easy to poke fun at the over-the-top merch game if Jeff Tweedy and company weren’t also comfortably turning out some of the best music of their long and storied careers. The band’s relaxed mentality carries over to the stage, where overlooked gems are given a new lease on life and old crowd-pleasers continue to age like fine wine. Wilco’s lineup is closing in on three decades together, and there’s a reason fans are as quick to flock to newly uploaded bootlegs as they are to limited vinyl releases. Come out and see for yourself when they hit the Paramount for a two-night stand. (*Paramount Theatre, 7:30 pm, all ages, \$40–\$75.*) **CHIPP TERWILLIGER**

THURS MARCH 19

Brent Faiyaz, GRIP

SOUL/R&B Propelled into the public spotlight after singing a perfect hook on Goldlink’s “Crew” in 2016, Maryland-raised, LA-based rapper/singer Brent Faiyaz has solidified his place as a rising voice in R&B. At once soulful and crude, Faiyaz both croons and boasts in the same breath. It’s been a minute (read: two years) since we last heard from the rapper, but he recently released *Fuck the World*, a lustful and often raw record about sex and the state of things. The title track in particular evokes a type of horny bleakness—“Wanna fuck the world, I’m a walkin’ erection.” Damn. Atlanta rapper GRIP opens. (*Neptune Theatre, 8 pm, all ages, \$24/\$29.*) **JASMYNE KEIMIG**

MARCH 19 & 21

R. Strauss ‘Salome’

CLASSICAL/OPERA An all-Strauss-all-the-time program beautifully arranged by Seattle Symphony music director Thomas Dausgaard. The evening kicks off with two tone poems: the magnificently stirring “Don Juan, Op. 20” and the gorgeously moody “Death and Transfiguration.” Dausgaard follows these wordless beauties with the second part of *Salome*, a rarely performed opera with an absolutely depraved story line. Judean princess Salome loves Jokanaan (John the Baptist), but he rebuffs her advances. Her stepdad, King Herod, loves Salome, but she rebuffs his advances. In Part II, Herod promises to give Salome whatever she wants if she dances for him. She does the dance of the seven veils and ends up naked at the feet of her stepdad. In return, she asks for John the Baptist’s head on a silver platter. When the head arrives, she makes out with it, and then Herod orders his guards to crush her with their shields. The symphony isn’t staging any of this, so all the incest and shield death will happen in your mind. But soprano Gun-Brit Barkmin, a huge star who knows this story well, will be onstage to sing the weird-ass tale. (*Benaraya Hall, \$24–\$134.*) **RICH SMITH**

FRI MARCH 20

Dan Deacon, Ed Schrader’s Music Beat

ELECTRONIC For nearly two decades, Dan Deacon has been proving that you can be a goofball and a serious electronic-music composer. He used to eschew stages for his performances and play on the floor while arranging crowd-participation stunts that broke down the artist-audience divide



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and thrust you back to that summer-camp feeling. Thankfully, the Baltimore producer's music packed so many outsized thrills and indelible hooks, it compensated for whatever gimmicks he was perpetrating. Now a full-fledged film composer (2019's *Time Trial*), Deacon is touring behind *Mystic Familiar*, which ladles on the inspirational melodies, expansive song structures, and rich textures until you swoon at the childlike wonder of it all. Check out "Arp II: Float Away" for an arpeggio-mad roller-coaster ride. (*Neptune Theatre, 9 pm, all ages, \$17/\$19.*) **DAVE SEGAL**

Pussy Riot

METAL/PUNK It's been eight years since Pussy Riot burst into the public consciousness after staging a guerrilla performance inside a Moscow cathedral, bringing their confrontational and unapologetic music and praxis to our attention. And at this moment in time, it seems like we need a punk intervention once again. Blending music, performance art, and political protest, the Russian punk collective is continuing to promote the overthrowing of imperialism, capitalism, and fascism while facing continued harassment from the Russian government. By attending, your money will also be going to a good cause—the collective has partnered with PLUS1, which means \$1 from every ticket sold will go to support Planned Parenthood and its local affiliates. (*Neumos, 8 pm, all ages, \$26.*) **JASMYNE KEIMIG**

Wye Oak, Lomelda

ROCK/POP Think of it as the mini-roadshow version of Wye Oak. For their JOIN tour, the Durham-via-Baltimore duo is trying something new. In addition to the beguiling music multi-instrumentalists Jenn Wasner and Andy Stack have been making together for 15 years, they'll be incorporating tracks from their solo projects, Joyero and Flock of Dimes. They've also expanded to a quintet with the addition of Arone Dyer (Buke and Gase), Adam Schatz (Landlady), and Pinson Chanselle (Spacebomb). "Anyone who has seen Wye Oak before," Stack states in their tour documentary, "has never seen this version of Wye Oak or anything like it." (*Crocodile, 8 pm, all ages, \$23.*) **KATHY FENNESSY**

SAT MARCH 21

Snoh Aalegra, QUIN

SOUL/R&B When taking a plunge into Snoh Aalegra's lush, emotive soundscapes, it's easy to deduce that the singer-songwriter, born Shahrzad Fooladi, listens to a lot of 1990s R&B. I first stumbled upon her single "Fool for You" while watching season three of HBO's *Insecure*, as one does. And as it turns out, there's not a Snoh Aalegra song I don't like. Her entire catalog (two EPs, two LPs, the most recent is 2019's *Ugh, those feels again*) is relatable, vulnerable, and exceptionally produced R&B, with vocals that are never doing too much or too little, but just enough, and influences that jump out from time to time: Whitney Houston, Michael Jackson, Mariah Carey, Brandy, Lauryn Hill. Another inspiration is Prince—Aalegra became a protégé of the Purple One in 2014, a relationship that continued until his death in 2016. She's currently touring in support of *Ugh*, which is packed with some of her best work yet. If her recent Tiny Desk Concert performance for NPR is any indication, she and her band are simply stunning live. (*Showbox Sodo, 8 pm, all ages, \$30/\$35.*) **JENNI MOORE**

MARCH 21–22



PIPER FERGUSON

Booker T. Jones

JAZZ This show should be mandatory for the entire PacNW, 'cause Mr. Booker T. Jones is a bona-fide heavy! He was THE understated, always cool, conservative, and concise Hammond organ player for the Stax house band Booker T. & the M.G.'s. Y'all might recognize their classic "Green Onions"—a song that, in less than three minutes, perfectly distills the moment when rock and roll and R&B met. Jones's musical reach can't be overstated. Anyway, I bet he'll play "Green Onions" along with his many well-loved Stax tracks and cuts off his most recent outing. 2019's *Note by Note*—so yeah, you should be there! (*Triple Door, 7:30 pm, all ages, \$40–\$50.*) **MIKE NIPPER**

SUN MARCH 22



DUSTIN CONDREN

Delicate Steve, Al Lover

ROCK/POP Over five albums (including *The Christmas Album*), Delicate Steve has been one of the low-key guitar heroes of the 2010s—who, in a twist, also uses synthesizer. His 2011 debut LP on David Byrne's Luaka Bop, *Wondervisions*, abounds with Blood Ulmer-like harmonics and flamboyant, Brian May-style melodic arcs while 2012's *Positive Force* and 2016's *This Is Steve* revel in slide mastery and laid-back, fuzzy, and flanged boogie rock in the vein of J.J. Cale. Last year's *Till I Burn Up* features bigger, dancier beats, bolder synth textures, tons of valiant guitar solos, and—yay!—no vocals. (*Sunset Tavern, 8 pm, \$15.*) **DAVE SEGAL**

TUES MARCH 24

Today Is the Day, Child Bite, Voycheck, Duvcon

METAL/PUNK God bless the noise band of all noise bands, Today Is the Day, as they're continuing to rage on!!! They've been at it for a while; I think I first saw 'em on the Clusterfuck Tour, or maybe it was at Moe in '95? All these years later,

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WED/MARCH 18 • 7:30PM

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THU/MARCH 19 • 7:30PM

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 WEDNESDAY 3/11 BRENT AMAKER DEATHSQUAD RAZOR CLAM + SMOKER DAD	 THURSDAY 3/12 EVAN GIILA RAFFAELLA	 FRIDAY 3/13 TWIDDLE + ALO
 SUNDAY 3/15 WHITEY MORGAN RED SHAHAN	 WEDNESDAY 3/18 AVI KAPLAN PAPER WINGS	 THURSDAY 3/19 DESTROYER NAP EYES
 SATURDAY 3/21 STUDIO GAGA A LADY GAGA TRIBUTE PARTY!	 FRIDAY 3/27 DIRTWIRE PORANGUÍ + ZAK POWERS	 SUNDAY 3/29 THE DISTRCITS GLOVE
 MONDAY 3/30 SHINGO2 & THE CHEE-HOOS A TRIBUTE TO NUJABES	 TUESDAY 3/31 HOLY FUCK	 WEDNESDAY 4/1 OF MONTREAL LOCATE S, 1
 FRIDAY 4/3 ELOHIM BAHARI + MEHRO	 SATURDAY 4/4 MONOPHONICS ALANNA ROYALE	 SUNDAY 4/5 YVES TUMOR ECCO2K
 MONDAY 4/6 OVERCOATS	 WEDNESDAY 4/8 PORCHES SASSY 009	 THURSDAY 4/9 MITIS
 SATURDAY 4/11 THE FRIGHTS	 SATURDAY 4/11 FUEGO! A REGGAETON DANCE PARTY	 WEDNESDAY 4/12 LEFTOVER CRACK + THE CASUALTIES GRADE 2

BARBOZA

 SATURDAY 3/14 DICK VALENTINE (OF ELECTRIC SIX)	 SUNDAY 3/15 TAMINO MATT HOLUBOWSKI	 TUESDAY 3/17 POLYPLASTIC WITH SPECIAL GUESTS
 WEDNESDAY 3/18 TRANSVIOLET + ARMORS WITH SPECIAL GUESTS	 FRIDAY 3/20 FIX VOX MOD + LINDA FROM WORK	 SATURDAY 3/21 GLADIÉ WITH SPECIAL GUESTS
 THURSDAY 3/26 SILVER TORCHES LEMOLO (SOLO)	 FRIDAY 3/27 NAVVI CLAY BEDS + SHELF NUNNY	 SATURDAY 3/28 SQUIRREL FLOWER WHY BONNIE
 SUNDAY 3/29 RATBOYS ELLIS	 TUESDAY 3/31 GARCIA PEOPLES PRANA CRAFTER	 THURSDAY 4/2 GEORGIA WITH SPECIAL GUESTS

TICKETS AVAILABLE AT NEUMOS.COM & THEBARBOZA.COM
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THE RUNAWAY

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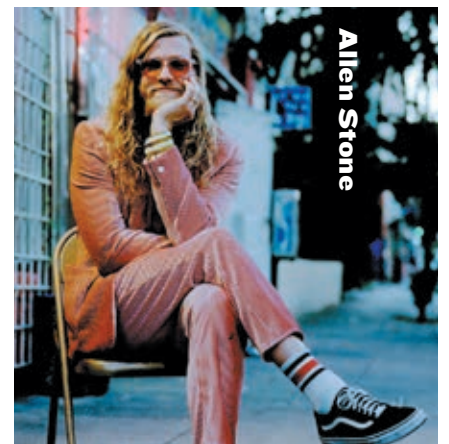
THINGS TO DO → Music

they're still owning savage, creepy, dark, and proggy stylings, though now they're way more informed by contemporary metal. Also on the bill is Detroit's Child Bite, who play heavy prog sludge, while Voycheck and Duvcon, both solid local groups, will be banging out their own takes of 1990s-proggy-influenced noise rock. (*The Funhouse*, 8 pm, \$14/\$16.) **MIKE NIPPER**

Tristan Gianola Trio, Authentic Luxury, Don McGreevy

ROCK/POP Up till 2016, New Orleans guitarist Tristan Gianola was a fixture on Seattle's avant-music scene coalescing around the Royal Room club, playing in units devoted to the extraordinary music of Mahavishnu Orchestra genius John McLaughlin, the Meters, and Annette Peacock, plus Wayne Horvitz's Electric Circus, which covers songs by jazz, funk, and rock greats from decades past. Gianola also flexes phenomenal chops to his original music with Guitar Is Dead, Pink Lion, and his current trio. He's an inspired virtuoso who excels at both bombast and intimate gestures. Diminished Men guitarist Simon Hennemann's supergroup Authentic Luxury (formerly Cantrip) conduct reckless joyrides through the most combustible elements of jazz and rock. Finally, you never know what you'll get with Seattle multi-instrumentalist Don McGreevy; he can bust out minimalist drone, symphonic grandeur, experimental rock, Popol Vuh-esque folkadelia. Plus, he drummed for Dennis Coffey at Bumbershoot in 2011. (*The Royal Room*, 7:30 pm, \$10.) **DAVE SEGAL**

MARCH 25–26



Allen Stone

JACK MCCAIN

Allen Stone, Samm Henshaw

ROCK/POP Without a doubt, most Seattleites have never heard of Chewelah, Washington (population 2,607 as of the 2010 census), though, also without a doubt, many Seattleites have likely heard the D'Angelo-smooth soul-pop stylings of Allen Stone. Riding the promotional high for his 2019 Jamie Lidell-produced *Building Balance*—his fourth R&B studio-seducer—the soon-to-be-33 Stone has dueted with *American Idol* contestants, but more interestingly, orchestrated a series he calls his Karaoke Extravaganza Tour, granting fans their own mic magic to belt out curated hits from Stone's discography and other non-Stone karaoke jewels. England songwriter and producer Samm Henshaw, who previously supported Chance the Rapper, will share the sweaty stage for Stone's unofficially belated, home-state bday celebration. (*The Showbox*, 8 pm, all ages, \$35.) **ZACH FRIMMEL**

MORE TheStranger.com/Music

More Picks

35th Seattle Improvised Music Festival

Various locations, \$5–\$20, through March 15

Agony! A Tribute To The Muffs

Clock-Out Lounge, Fri March 20, 9 pm, \$12/\$15

AJJ, Xiu Xiu, Emperor X

Crocodile, Wed March 25, 7 pm, all ages, \$21 (sold out)

Avi Kaplan

Neumos, Wed March 18, 8 pm, all ages, \$20/\$25

Blackbird Blackbird

Barboza, Fri March 13, 7 pm, \$14/\$16

Bikini Kill

Paramount Theatre, March 16–17, 8 pm, all ages, \$39.50 (sold out)

Built to Spill, Prims Bitch

Crocodile, March 23–24, 8 pm, \$30

Chelsea Cutler, Alexander 23

Showbox Soda, Mon March 16, 8 pm, all ages, \$24/\$26

Christeene, Bed Tundee, Sashay, Dyed

Clock-Out Lounge, Fri March 13, 9 pm, \$18/\$20

Delvon Lamarr Organ Trio

Jazz Alley, March 24–25, 7:30 pm, all ages, \$31

Destroyer, Nap Eyes

Neumos, Thurs March 19, 8 pm, all ages, \$20/\$25

Eddie LeVert of The O'Jays: The Songs and Stories

Jazz Alley, March 19–22, \$51

EVAN GIILA, Raffaella

Barboza, Thurs March 12, 8 pm, all ages, \$15/\$18

An Evening with Corey Harris

Tractor Tavern, Mon March 16, 8 pm, \$15

Frazey Ford, Alec Shaw

Crocodile, Wed March 18, 8 pm, \$23/\$25

Galactic, Anjelika Jelly Joseph

The Showbox, Fri March 20, 9 pm, all ages, \$34/\$37

Gill Landry, Thunderstorm Artis

Fremont Abbey Arts Center, Thurs March 12, 7:30 pm, all ages, \$25

Grace Potter

The Showbox, Sat March 14, 8 pm, all ages, \$35/\$38

Haüsed x Depth: La Fleur

Kremwerk, Thurs March 12, 10 pm, \$14

Ilana Glazer's "Horny 4 Tha Polls" Genny Social

Barboza, Wed March 25, 8 pm, \$16

Inverted Space Ensemble

Chapel Performance Space, Sat March 21, 8 pm, all ages, \$5–\$15

Jamestown Revival

The Showbox, Sun March 15, 8 pm, all ages, \$22/\$25

Jerusalem Quartet

Kathryn Alvord Gerlich Theater, Tues March 24, 7:30 pm, \$41+

Joan Osborne & The Weepies

Edmonds Center for the Arts, Tues March 24, 7:30 pm, \$29–\$64

Joe Bonamassa

Paramount Theatre, March 20–21, 8 pm, all ages, \$69–\$199

La Roux

The Showbox, Thurs March 19, 9 pm, all ages, \$32/\$37

Lauren Ruth Ward, Valley Queen, Egg Drop Soup

Crocodile, Sun March 22, 7 pm, \$13/\$15

Leslie Odom Jr.

Neptune Theatre, Sun March 15, 8 pm, all ages, \$25/\$29 (sold out)

Mary Gauthier, Jaimee Harris

Triple Door, Sun March 15, 7:30 pm, all ages, \$28–\$33

MC Hotdog, Kenzy (MJ116)

Neptune Theatre, Wed March 25, 8 pm, all ages, \$34

Melanie

Triple Door, Fri March 20, 7:30 pm, \$53–\$65

Melanie Martinez, Sub Urban

Paramount Theatre, Wed March 25, 8 pm, all ages, \$32

Natalie MacMaster

Neptune Theatre, Mon March 16, 8 pm, \$35/\$40

NEGATIVLAND, Blevin Blectum, Live Cinema by Sue-C

Clock-Out Lounge, Sun March 22, 8:30 pm, \$18/\$20

Noise Complaint ft. Will Clarke

Kremwerk, Fri March 13, 10 pm, \$20

Potty Mouth, Sir Babygirl

Vera Project, Mon March 23, 7 pm, all ages, \$12/\$15

Prism Tats, Emma Lee Toyoda, Bryan John Appleby

Bellevue Yacht Club, Tues March 24, 8:30 pm, \$8

PUNK BLACK Seattle Fest

Bellevue Yacht Club, Sun March 15, 6 pm, \$15

RJD2, Pressha, DJ Indica Jones

Nectar, Fri March 20, 8 pm, \$30/\$35

Royal Jelly Jive, Guests

Tractor Tavern, Thurs March 19, 8 pm, \$15

Starlight Collective with Mark Pickarel

Bellevue Yacht Club, Thurs March 12, 8 pm, \$15

MORE EVENTS TheStranger.com/EverOut



JASON BONHAM'S
BLAZE
LED ZEPPELIN EVENING
THE TEN YEARS GONE TOUR
MAY 18
ON SALE FRIDAY 10AM



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THE Royal Room

Coming Up in April

April 1 | 8:30pm
KNKX Presents
Piano Starts Here:
The Music of Keith Jarrett
\$8adv/\$12dos

April 10 | 8:00pm
"Sweet Dreams"
80s Burlesque/Cabaret
Musical Spectacular!
\$15adv/\$18dos

April 12 | 7:00pm
Eliza Gilkyson
\$25adv/\$30dos

April 26 | 7:00pm
Ian George + the Well
and Luness
\$12adv/\$15dos

April 27 | 7:00pm
Stackhouse & The Garden
The Pine Hearts
\$8adv/\$12dos

April 28 | 7:00pm
Zoe Lewis and The Wolves
Entry by Donation

March 17 | 7:00pm
\$18adv/\$22dos
Jenny Scheinman
& Allison Miller's
Parlour Game

March 22 | 7:00pm
The Crocodile Presents:
Aaron Turner//Tashi Dorji
Daniel Menche//Kole Galbraith
\$15adv/\$17dos

March 27 | 8:30pm
Planet Fly
Reposado
\$8adv/\$12dos

**Mar 18-21
7:30pm**
Indigo Mist
feat. George Garzone


More Shows!!

3.16 Kyle Smith//Perfect By Tomorrow
3.24 Tristan Gianola Trio//
Authentic Luxury//Don McGreevy
3.25 Collier & Seales Duo w/ Valerie Rosa
3.26 Celebrate Women! w/ The Red Rose Combo
3.28 Comedy Night: Steve Hofstetter
4.2 Saint Ophelia//Our Dead Fathers
The Vincent Gates Band
4.4 South Hudson Music Project Fundraiser
4.13 Jess Jocoy//Lowe Cellar//Maddy Smith
4.24 Klyntel
4.30 Dwayne Haggins//Luke Abbott//TBD

5000 Rainier Ave S, Seattle, WA 98118
www.theroyalroomseattle.com

Follow Us!
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Times listed
are start times
Doors are 30-60
mins prior



NECTAR

NECTAR LOUNGE
412 N 36th St
206.632.2020
www.nectarlounge.com

FEATURED EVENTS

3.13 Friday (Electronic)
BLUETECH, THE HUMAN EXPERIENCE
Phaeleh, Lapa

3.15 Sunday (Jazz)
"AN EVENING WITH"
SKERIK BAND featuring
Skerik (sax), Andy Coe (guitar)
Damian Erskine (bass)
Tarik Abouzied (drums)
Jason Cressey (trombone)
Gordon Brown (baritone sax)
Ahamefule J. Oluo (trumpet)

3.17 Tuesday (Bluegrass)
THE WARREN G. HARDINGS & FRIENDS
ST PADDY'S DAY PARTY"
featuring friends & special guests!

3.18 Wednesday (Funk / Jazz)
UNSINKABLE HEAVIES
featuring very special guests
EDDIE ROBERTS (of New
Mastersounds), DJ LOGIC
NO COVER with RSVP!

3.20 Friday (Trip-Hop)
RJD2
Pressha
DJ Indica Jones

3.27 Friday (Trip-Hop)
MARK FARINA - MUSHROOM JAZZ
Pressha, J-Justice

3.28 Saturday ('90s Music)
SHE'S ALL THAT: A '90S PROM PARTY
Featuring: #All4Doras (Seattle's
Only Boy Band Tribute) DJ
Moynetric + DJ Lo Knows

3.29 Sunday (Reggae)
LEILANI WOLFGRAMM
Rebel Lion

3.31 Tuesday (Hip-Hop)
FASHAWN J STONE
Special Guests

4.4 Saturday (Soul / Funk)
PIMPS OF JOYTIME
with Scott Pemberton Band

UPCOMING EVENTS

3.12 THE GOLDEN ROAD FEAT SCOTT LAW 3.14 CLINTON FEARON & BOOGIE BROWN BAND 3.19 MR BILL + ILL GATES 3.21 AQUEOUS & CYTRUS 3.26 PUBLISH THE QUEST 4.2 HORSESHOES & HAND GRENADES 4.3 EKOLU 4.5 HAVOC OF MOBB DEEP 4.8 SAM BUSH BAND WITH THE TRAVELIN' MCCOURYS 4.9 BE SVENDSEN 4.10 MICKEY AVALON 4.11 GARAJ MAHAL 4.16 EMERALD QUINTET 4.17 BUMPIN UGLIES 4.18 ELDRIDGE GRAVY & LDW 4.19 ANDRE NICKATINA 4.20 DEVIN THE DUDE 4.23 MATTHEW DEAR 4.24 NIGHTMARES ON WAX (DJ SET) 4.25 SEUN KUTI 4.26 CHRIS WEBBY 4.28 (((O))) 4.30 DAKH DAUGHTERS 5.1 PERPETUAL GROOVE 5.2 KYLE HOLLINGSWORTH BAND 5.7 THE WAILERS 5.8 PSYMBIONIC 5.9 STUDIO 54 FEAT. HIT EXPLOSION 5.14 DELLA MAE 5.15 FLOWMOTION 5.16 PHUTUREPRIMITIVE 5.21 SUMMER MELTDOWN SHOWDOWN 5.29 GONDWANA 6.5 SHAFTY PHISH TRIBUTE AT HIGH DIVE 6.5 LBDA 7.17 THAT BIG 80S PARTY 9.11 + 9.12 PBJAM FEST 2020!



HIGH DIVE

513 N 36TH ST

EVERY MONDAY: **KARAOKE**
EVERY THURSDAY: **MARMALADE**
Seattle's Longest Running Funk Night

3.5 Thursday (Funk Jam)
THE ORIGINAL MARMALADE LINE-UP
EVERY THURSDAY IN MARCH!

3.6 Friday (Queen + Police Tributes)
QUEEN MOTHER
with SOS

3.7 Saturday (Indie / Rock)
BRASS MONKEYS
(Beastie Boys Tribute)
with Asterhouse (Live video shoot!)

3.8 Sunday (Indie / Rock)
PALACE HOTEL
with Nolan Garrett, & Claire Michelle

3.11 Wednesday (Pop / Indie)
THE ROOKERY
DEBUT ALBUM PRE-RELEASE PARTY
with Glass Beaches, & Sam Parker Trio

3.12 Thursday (Funk Jam)
THE ORIGINAL MARMALADE LINE-UP
EVERY THURSDAY IN MARCH!

3.13 Friday (Acid Jazz / Experimental)
ARISAWKADORIA
with McTuff

3.14 Saturday (80's Tribute)
THE RETROS

3.15 Sunday (Psych / Pop-Punk)
THE GOOD WEIRD
with Theories of Flight, & Tons & Tons

3.17 Tuesday (Indie / Rock)
ROUNDHouser
Palatine Trio, Opheliac

THINGS TO DO → Music

THE KRAKEN BAR & LOUNGE

MWSP Benefit with Zorched Realm, Fakies, Headless Pez, Nightfeeder, 8–11 pm, \$10

LUCKY LIQUOR Ol' Doris, Mangy, The Disorderlies, Warning Danger, 9 pm, \$7

MOORE THEATRE The Fab Four—The Ultimate Tribute, 8 pm, \$32–\$60

NECTAR Clinton Fearon & Boogie Brown Band, Ian Ayers & The Soul Purpose, 8 pm, \$13

NORTH CITY BISTRO The Music of Four, 8 pm, \$15

PHINNEY NEIGHBORHOOD ASSOCIATION Downtown Mountain Boys, 7:30 pm, \$10–\$20

THE ROYAL ROOM Electric Circus, 9 pm, free

SHOWBOX SODO Dom Dolla, 8 pm, \$15–\$30

SUNSET TAVERN The Hasslers, The Cosmic Shuffle, Nick Drummond Band, 9 pm, \$10

TACOMA DOME NGHTMRE, SVDEN DEATH, Midnight Tyrannosaurus, Kompany, Wavedash, Eftin, 7 pm, \$30–\$70

TIM NOAH'S THUMBNAIL THEATER G'psy Soul, 7:30 pm, \$20

TRACTOR TAVERN Massy Ferguson, Lydia Ramsey, Heels to the Hardwood, 9 pm, \$12

CLASSICAL/ OPERA

★ **BENAROYA HALL** Tchaikovsky Symphony No. 5, 8 pm, \$24–\$134

CARCO THEATRE Sacred Opera Presents 'Esther', 7 pm, \$20

FIRST FREE METHODIST CHURCH Swan Song: Schubert's Final Year, 8 pm, \$6–\$22

★ **PLYMOUTH CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH** Choral Arts NW: Fauré Requiem, 8 pm, \$24–\$32

REDMOND PERFORMING ARTS CENTER Eastside Symphony Winter Concert, 7:30 pm, \$9

THEATER PUGET SOUND SCA Presents: Seattle Video Game Orchestra and Choir Concert, 7 pm, \$15

★ **TOWN HALL** Ars Longa de la Habana, 7:30–9:30 pm, \$20–\$45

DJ/DANCE

AURORA BOREALIS '80s vs '90s with DJ Indica Jones, 9 pm, \$5/\$10

CROCODILE Holi: Festival of Colors!, 9 pm, \$16/\$20

FROLIK Silent Disco Saint Patrick's Day Party, 8:30 pm, \$16/\$25

MONKEY LOFT LOST, 10 pm

Q NIGHTCLUB Haute Sauce: Swervewon, Lourawk, Love-jones, Zilla, 10 pm, \$10

JAZZ

PACIFIC ROOM Dmitri Matheny I Songs of Wonder: The Stevie Wonder Songbook, 8 pm, \$18–\$25

Sun 3/15

LIVE MUSIC

★ **AURORA BOREALIS** Dr. Jop Funk Shop!, 6–9 pm, \$5/\$8

CENTRAL SALOON DKDC, Guests, 8–11 pm, \$8

COLUMBIA CITY THEATER Hip Replacements, Comfort Food, 7 pm, \$15

★ **THE CROCODILE BACK BAR** Sir Ashley Almond, Devon Dodgeson, Caitlin Patterson, 6:30 pm, \$5

HIGH DIVE The Good Weird, Theories of Flight, Tons & Tons, 7:30 pm, \$6/\$10

★ **NECTAR** An Evening with the Skerik Band, 8 pm, \$12/\$16

★ **NEUMOS** Whitey Morgan, 6 pm, \$27–\$77

★ **THE SHOWBOX** Jamestown Revival, 8 pm, \$22/\$25

SKYLARK CAFE & CLUB Skularoid Presents: Wynne Blue's Nifty Fifty Birthday Party, 5 pm

TIM'S TAVERN Spunj, Moose Almighty, 9 pm, free

TRACTOR TAVERN Blues for the Ride with Karen Lovely and Stacy Jones, 6 pm, \$20–\$30

CLASSICAL/ OPERA

★ **BENAROYA HALL** Byron Schenkman & Friends Presents: Vivaldi in Paris – Baroque Virtuosity, 7–9 pm, \$10–\$48

★ **BRECHMIN AUDITORIUM** Women in Music: Madison Lombardo, mezzo-soprano, recital, 1:30 pm, free

BREMERTON HIGH SCHOOL PERFORMING ARTS CENTER Fairy Tales & Legends, 3 pm, \$10–\$28

FOLIO: THE SEATTLE ATHENAEUM Chamber Music II, 6 pm, \$28

QUEEN ANNE CHRISTIAN CHURCH The Artistry of Tanya Tomkins, 3 pm, \$15–\$32

SAINT MARK'S CATHEDRAL Tchaikovsky's Divine Liturgy, 3 pm, \$32–\$52

SEATTLE FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH Psallitel, 3 pm, \$16–\$28

JAZZ

THE ALLEY Sunday Night Jazz, 8–10 pm, free

THE ROYAL ROOM Double Bass, The Bill Anschell Quartet, 8 pm, \$12

Mon 3/16

LIVE MUSIC

★ **THE CROCODILE BACK BAR** Sunflower, Feeling People Feeling People, The Ben & Tony Show, 7:30 pm, \$6

★ **EL CORAZON** 3TEETH, Carnifex, The Browning, Skold, 6:30 pm, \$25/\$28

HIGHLINE Mechanismus and Yes Productions Present Sydney Valette & Crosby, 8 pm, \$12/\$15

THE ROYAL ROOM Kyle Smith, Perfect By Tomorrow, 7 pm, \$8

★ **SPANISH BALLROOM** The Groove Colony, 6 pm, \$5

SUNSET TAVERN Heatwarmer, Jacob Jaffe, 8 pm, \$10

★ **TRIPLE DOOR** Adam Williams, Kate Dinsmore, Nick Foster Band, 7:30 pm, \$12/\$15

CLASSICAL/ OPERA

BELLEVUE COLLEGE From The Chamber, 7:30 pm, \$5–\$10

JAZZ

THE ALLEY Monday Night Jazz, 7 pm, free

Tues 3/17

LIVE MUSIC

BARBOZA Polyplastic, 8 pm, \$10

CENTRAL SALOON St. Pat's Party with Fast Nasties, Whalien, Fat Starfish, 8 pm, \$8/\$10

EL CORAZON GayC/DC, Ball Bag, 8 pm, \$15/\$20

HIGH DIVE Roundhouser, Palatine Trio, Opheliac, 7:30 pm, \$6/\$10

★ **HOLLOW EARTH RADIO** The Tissues, Eli, Dear Child, 9–11:30 pm, \$7–\$15

LUCKY LIQUOR Celtic Viking St Patrick's Day Party, 9 pm, \$10

★ **NECTAR** St Paddy's Day Party with the Warren G. Hardings & Guests, 8 pm, \$10/\$15

★ **NEPTUNE THEATRE** Dervish, 8 pm, \$24

★ **NEUMOS** City Morgue, 8 pm, \$18–\$21

PARLIAMENT TAVERN St. Patrick's Day Party with The International Funk Snakes, 8 pm, \$10

SEA MONSTER LOUNGE Elsa Nilsson Band, 8 pm, free

★ **THE SHOWBOX** Mayhem & Abbat, 8 pm, \$29/\$32

TIM'S TAVERN St. Patrick's Day Party at Tim's!, 2 pm, \$5

TRACTOR TAVERN St. Patrick's Day with The Paperboys, 6:30 pm, 9 pm, \$20

★ **TRIPLE DOOR** Steve Azar, 7:30 pm, \$30/\$35

★ **VERA PROJECT** Knuckle Puck, Heart Attack Man, Better Love, 7 pm, \$19/\$21

WHITE CENTER EAGLES Danny Vernon's Illusion of Elvis & St. Patrick's Day Dinner, 5–7 pm, \$20/\$25

WILDROSE Gaelic Gays St. Patrick's Party with the Betsy Olson Band, 4:30–8:30 pm

CLASSICAL/ OPERA

★ **CHAPEL PERFORMANCE** SPACE Orca Concert Series: Les Six-and-a-half, 7:30–9:30 pm, \$30

★ **CHRIST EPISCOPAL CHURCH** Giuliani & Friends, 7:30 pm, \$0–\$25

DJ/DANCE

KREMWERK Human Error// Presents: Shamrock the Block, 10 pm, \$5

TIMBRE ROOM NorthLeft: Emerald, 10 pm, \$5/\$10

JAZZ

★ **JAZZ ALLEY** Molly Johnson, 7:30 pm, \$27

THE ROYAL ROOM Jenny Scheinman & Allison Miller's Parlour Game, 7 pm, \$18

Wed 3/18

LIVE MUSIC

CENTRAL SALOON Dearheart, Bad Saint, Steel Beans, 8 pm, \$8/\$10

CHOP SUEY Brodie Myles, Andy Beatman, Kal Nadi, 8 pm

★ **CONOR BYRNE** Jonas Myers, Marina and the Dreamboats, Halley Greg, 8–11 pm, \$8

★ **EL CORAZON** The Acacia Strain, Rotting Out, Chamber, Fuming Mouth, Asema, 6:30 pm, \$17

HIGH DIVE Dylan Hayes Electric Band, Max Walker Trio, Martin Budde Trio, 8 pm, \$8/\$12

NECTAR Unsinkable Heavies, Eddie Roberts, DJ Logic, 8 pm, free

RENDEZVOUS Dawson Shaw, Cape Disappointment, Blaire Rose, Seagazer, 6 pm, \$5

SEA MONSTER LOUNGE Nowsterday, 8–9:30 pm, free

SUBSTATION Little Hero, Vanilla Abstract, Noah Byrd, 7–11 pm, \$8

SUNSET TAVERN Tincho, Yauns, Guests, 8 pm, \$10

TRACTOR TAVERN Jason Boland & The Stragglers, Elaina Kay, 8 pm, \$20

★ **TRIPLE DOOR** Tinsley Ellis, John Greyhound Maxwell, 7:30 pm, \$20–\$26

VERMILLION Unilalia Live! 007 ft. Skully Vega, Fat Tone, Carter Wilson, Astral Trap, + More, 7:30 pm, \$5

JAZZ

★ **JAZZ ALLEY** Molly Johnson, 7:30 pm, \$27

★ **THE ROYAL ROOM** Indigo Mist Residency Featuring George Garzone, free

Thurs 3/19

LIVE MUSIC

★ **BALLARD HOMESTEAD** Danny Barnes, Marley's Ghost, 7 pm, \$25

CENTRAL SALOON Tooms, Emily Edrosa, Doglob, 8 pm, \$10

CHAPEL PERFORMANCE SPACE Falzone, Miller, Whiting, 8 pm, \$5–\$15

★ **CROCODILE** Verite, Arthur Moon, 8 pm, \$16–\$73

★ **THE FUNHOUSE** Fotocrime, Blickey, 7:30 pm, \$10/\$12

NECTAR Mr. Bill Gates (Mr. Bill + ill.Gates), Jonah Hodges, RIP Kenny, Luke Rain, 8 pm, \$18

★ **PARAGON** Paragon Live Presents Kate Dinsmore, 9 pm, free

RENDEZVOUS Ocean Theory, 9 pm, \$7/\$10

SEA MONSTER LOUNGE Comfort Food, 8–9:30 pm, free

SPANISH BALLROOM

Champagne Sunday, 6 pm, \$5

★ **SPANISH BALLROOM** Thirsty Third Thursdays, 10:30 pm, \$5

SUBSTATION No Home, Fiore, Aurora's Eyes, 8 pm, \$8

SUNSET TAVERN Old Salt Union, Guests, 8 pm, \$10

TIM'S TAVERN Skularoid: Pacific Echoes, Blue Glass, Anatolia's Finest, 9 pm, \$8

VICTORY LOUNGE The Prairie Fire's Third Thursday + Guests, 8:30 pm, \$5

DJ/DANCE

CHOP SUEY Squadron // Drum and Bass, 9 pm, \$5

CLOCK-OUT LOUNGE Elevators, Ep. 1, 9 pm, \$10/\$13

Q NIGHTCLUB Field Trip 112: Odd Mob, 9 pm, \$10

JAZZ

BELLEVUE COLLEGE Jazz Combos Concert, 7:30 pm, \$5

EGAN'S BALLARD JAM HOUSE Gretchen Rumbaugh and Tom Orr, 7 pm, \$20

★ **RESONANCE AT SOMA TOWERS** Eastside Jazz Club Concert Series, 7:30 pm, \$25–\$30

★ **THE ROYAL ROOM** Indigo Mist Residency Featuring George Garzone, free

★ **TRIPLE DOOR** Sundae & Mr. Goessl, 7:30 pm, \$25–\$40

Fri 3/20

LIVE MUSIC

AURORA BOREALIS The Rumor: Plays the Hits!, 8 pm, \$10

BARBOZA FIX, Vox Mod, Linda From Work, 7 pm, \$10

BELTOWN YACHT CLUB Spread Series: Actionesse, Dirty Dirty, (b r a c e t s), 8 pm, \$10

★ **BLACK LODGE** Old Time Relijun, Diminished Men, Pink Void, 8 pm

★ **CAFE RACER** POLT, Bear Talk, Rabble House, Guests, 8:30 pm, \$5–\$10

CENTRAL SALOON Skelator, Toxic Reign, Hillside 77, Rhine, 8 pm, \$10

CLUB SUR Good Co Album Release!, 8 pm, \$10–\$25

CONOR BYRNE Ryan Barber & The Riches, Ten-Speed Music, Jonny Gold, 9–11:45 pm, \$8

★ **FREMONT ABBEY** Gabriel Delayne, Dravus House, Larsen Gardens, 7:30 pm, \$15

THE FUNHOUSE Tenrai, Museum of Light, Graphic Nature, 9 pm, \$6/\$8

★ **FUSION CAFE** Odd Man Out, Trapped By Lies, Real, Home Invader, Victimized, 8–10 pm, \$10

★ **HARD ROCK CAFE** Designer Disguise, Takers Leavers, 6 pm, \$10/\$15

HIGHLINE Vastum, Hissing, Cystic, 9 pm, \$14/\$17

KREMWERK Shook: Innamind Recordings Showcase with Ago, Bengal Sound, Kursk, 10 pm, \$12/\$15

LO-FI Dearly Departed CD Release with Alicia Amiri and Maya Marie, 10 pm

NORTH CITY BISTRO Lee Oskar & Friends, 8 pm, \$28

★ **THE ROYAL ROOM** The Elnah Jordan Experience Birthday Celebration, 6 pm, free

SEA MONSTER LOUNGE The Nick Mardon Trio, Funky to Death, 7:30 pm, \$10

SUNSET TAVERN Purple Strange, Stereo Embers, Kathy Moore Power Trio, 9 pm, \$12

THE SWISS Dirt Nasty, 9 pm, \$18

TRACTOR TAVERN The Crocodile Presents: Bear Hands, Guests, 9 pm, \$18

CLASSICAL/ OPERA

BENAROYA HALL Beethoven & Shostakovich, 8 pm, \$38

BENAROYA HALL Seattle Men's Chorus – Love Beyond Borders, \$32–\$85

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SEA MONSTER LIVE MUSIC

★★ DON'T MISS EVENTS ★★

FRI MAR 13: EMMA HORTON BAND
LIVE SOUL/JAZZ 8PM

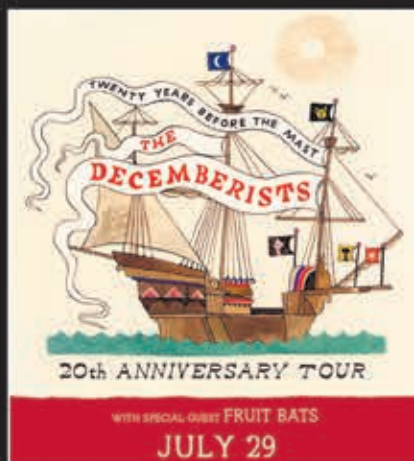
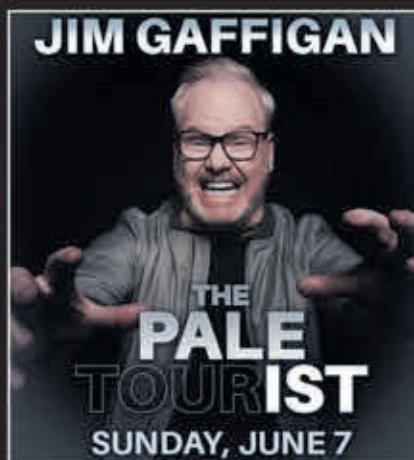
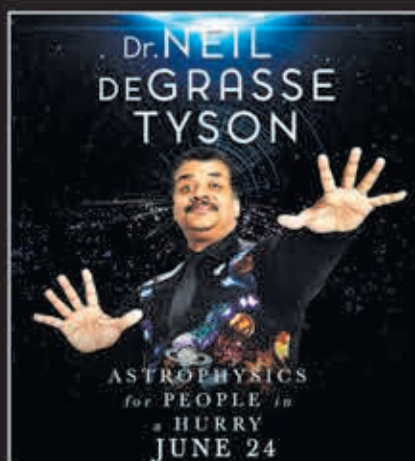
FRI MAR 20: NICK MARDON BAND
LIVE BLUES/FUNK 8PM

FRI MAR 27: SHADY BOTTOM
HORNY FUNK 6 PIECE 8PM

8PM 10PM	TUESDAY NIGHTS New Live Bands JOE DORIA PRESENTS: Live B3 organ jazz funk FREE
8PM 10PM	WEDNESDAY NIGHTS Live SOUL, FUNK & JAZZ bands FREE
8PM 10PM	THURSDAY NIGHTS New Live Bands PROUD & NASTY OPEN JAM FREE
8PM 10PM	FUNKY 2 DEATH FRIDAYS Live Party Bands F2D live soul and funk revue w/ DJ ROCPHIZZLE \$12
7PM 10PM	CUBAN/LATIN SATURDAYS 700 FUNK SATURDAY \$12

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DEARHEART + BAD SAINT + STEEL BEANS

THU 3/19
TOOMS + EMILY EDROSA + DOGLOB

FRI 3/20
RHINE + TOXIC REIGN + HILLSIDE '77

SAT 3/21
JOHN CROWN + CORY TATE + NOBI + SLAKE DRANKSY + SQCTCH

SUN 3/22
DAWSON SHAW

MON 3/23
VADER TOTS + A.G.

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3/12 **KEITH MUSIG TRIO**

3/13 **JAMESTOWN REVIVAL**

3/14 **'80s VIDEO DANCE ATTACK**

3/15 **COOL WATER**

3/16 **THE GROOVE COLONY**

3/17 **THE FUN POLICE AS PART OF ST. PATRICK'S DAY CELEBRATION FREE**

3/18 **MARCH TO MAY**

3/19 **CHAMPAGNE SUNDAY**

3/20 **2000s DANCE FLASHBACK**

3/22 **THE FABULOUS ROOF SHAKERS**

3/23 **LEIFY GREEN**

3/24 **JESSE DAYTON**

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ST. JOSEPH CATHOLIC CHURCH
OSSCS: Sacrifice, 7 pm, \$1-\$28

DJ/DANCE

BOX HOUSE SALOON Blessed
In Bass: Kill Paris, 10 pm, \$10-\$20
MONKEY LOFT Persona by
Studio 4/4, 10 pm
ORA NIGHTCLUB Arkham Knights
& Haliene, 10 pm, \$20-\$400
Q NIGHTCLUB Night School:
Gattuso, 10 pm, \$15

JAZZ

CHAPEL PERFORMANCE
SPACE Sound Sky Trio, Ronan
Delisle, 8 pm, \$10
EGAN'S BALLARD JAM
HOUSE Gretchen Rumbaugh
and Karen Skrinde and Jordan
McClellan, 7 pm, \$20
★ **THE ROYAL ROOM**
Indigo Mist Residency Featuring
George Garzone, free

Sat 3/21

LIVE MUSIC

BARBOZA Gladie, 7 pm, \$8/\$10
BELLTOWN YACHT CLUB The
Great Dying, 8:30-11:30 pm, \$15
CAFE NORDO Tunes & Tales
2020, 5:30-8 pm, \$75
CENTRAL SALOON John
Crown, Cory Tate, Nob, Slake
Dranksy, Sqctch, 8 pm, \$12
CROCODILE Wild Rumours
(Fleetwood Mac Tribute), 8 pm,
\$17/\$20
★ **THE CROCODILE BACK**
BAR Wish You Were Here, Scott
Ruth, Derek Ted, 6 pm, \$13/\$15
DARRELL'S TAVERN Stereo
Donkey, The Seatopians,
Muertemen, 9 pm, \$10
EL CORAZON Metalachi,
Clownvis Presley, Stingshark,
Weener, 9 pm, \$16
HIGH DIVE Billy Idol & Motley
Crue Tribute Night, 8 pm, \$15
HIGHLINE Wax Lead, Vioator,
Hallows, 2 Libras, DJ Vox
Sinistra, 8 pm, \$15
THE KRAKEN BAR & LOUNGE
The Bitter Ex Lovers, Teen Cat,
Evil on Repeat, 9 pm, \$7
NECTAR Aqueous, Cytrus,
Onion the Man, 8 pm, \$14
THE SHOWBOX G. Love &
Special Sauce, Jontavious Willis,
8:30 pm, \$30

★ **SUNSET TAVERN** Warren
Dunes, The Hoot Hoots, The
Salmonberries, 9 pm, \$10
★ **TACOMA DOME** Brantley
Gilbert Fire't Up 2020 Tour,
7:30 pm, \$40/\$70
★ **TEMPLE THEATER** The
Allman Betts Band, 8 pm,
\$27/\$40
★ **VERA PROJECT** Spite, Varials,
I AM, Orthodox, Dealer, 8 pm, \$17

CLASSICAL/ OPERA

★ **BEACON HILL STATION**
Bach in the Light Rail,
9 am-9 pm, free
BENAROYA HALL Seattle Men's
Chorus - Love Beyond Borders,
\$32-\$85
BENAROYA HALL Michael
Partington, 7:30 pm, \$40
BLAKELY HALL Collaborative
Concert Series - Collage
Concert, 7 pm, \$0-\$8
CHURCH OF THE HOLY CROSS
Cascadian Chorale: The World
Beloved, 7:30 pm, \$15-\$20
★ **EDMONDS CENTER FOR THE ARTS** Masters of Hawaiian
Music: George Kahumoku Jr.,
Nathan Aweau, & Jeff Peterson,
7:30 pm, \$19-\$54
TRINITY PARISH CHURCH Byrd
Ensemble: Our Lady, 7:30 pm,
\$20-\$45

DJ/DANCE
Q NIGHTCLUB Haute Sauce: DJ
Goofy 500, 10 pm, \$10
SUBSTATION Bass Cave XI,
9 pm, \$10/\$15

JAZZ
EGAN'S BALLARD JAM
HOUSE Gabrielle Nicole and
Angie Louise, 9 pm, \$20
★ **THE ROYAL ROOM**
Indigo Mist Residency Featuring
George Garzone, free

BARBOZA Anna Meredith,
Guests, 7 pm, \$15/\$18
CHOP SUEY Iffin, Armature,
Point of Arches, 8 pm, \$8/\$10
HIGH DIVE Lilac Kings, Elk
Grove, They Rise, We Die, hour-
glasses, 7:30 pm, \$10/\$12
★ **SUNSET TAVERN** Ata Kak,
Guests, 9 pm, \$20
TRACTOR TAVERN Jenny Don't
& The Spurs, Wildcat Rose, Mike
Giacolino, 8 pm, \$10

JAZZ
SEA MONSTER LOUNGE
Syrrup, 8-9:30 pm, free
★ **TRIPLE DOOR** Jane
Monheit, 7:30 pm, \$30-\$40

DJ/DANCE
Q NIGHTCLUB Haute Sauce: DJ
Goofy 500, 10 pm, \$10
SUBSTATION Bass Cave XI,
9 pm, \$10/\$15

JAZZ
EGAN'S BALLARD JAM
HOUSE Gabrielle Nicole and
Angie Louise, 9 pm, \$20
★ **THE ROYAL ROOM**
Indigo Mist Residency Featuring
George Garzone, free

Sun 3/22

LIVE MUSIC

★ **CHOP SUEY** Sam Lachow,
8 pm, sold out
★ **COLUMBIA CITY THEATER**
Flora Cash, 8 pm, \$16/\$19
★ **THE CROCODILE BACK**
BAR Brian James & the Great
Unknown, Waking Maya, 9 pm, \$7
★ **EL CORAZON** Rotting Christ,
Borknagar, Wolfheart, Abigail
Williams, Imperial Triumphant,
5:30 pm, \$25/\$30
HIGH DIVE Cryptamnesia,
Atrocity Girl, Evelyn's Casket,
8 pm, \$6/\$10
JAZZBONES Metalachi: The
World's First and Only Heavy
Metal Mariachi Band, 8 pm, \$15
★ **PHINNEY NEIGHBORHOOD**
ASSOCIATION Missy Raines
Quartet, 7-10 pm, \$10-\$20
PHINNEY RIDGE LUTHERAN
CHURCH Wide Open Spaces,
3 pm, \$25

★ **THE ROYAL ROOM** The
Crocodile Presents: Tashi Dorji
& Aaron Turner with Daniel
Menche, 6 pm, \$15/\$17

CLASSICAL/ OPERA

EASTSIDE Cascadian Chorale:
The World Beloved, 3 pm, \$15-\$22
★ **MEANY CENTER FOR THE PERFORMING ARTS**
SYSO Four Orchestras - Spring
Concert, 3 pm, \$15-\$35
★ **NATIONAL NORDIC**
MUSEUM Mostly Nordic
Concert Series: Finnish Fanfare,
2 pm, \$10-\$30

JAZZ

★ **AURORA BOREALIS** pH
Factor Big Band!, 5 pm, \$7/\$10
★ **JET CITY IMPROV** Jazz
Shout, 7:30 pm, \$20-\$35

Mon 3/23

LIVE MUSIC

SUBSTATION Depraver, Blight-
maker, City of Industry, 8 pm, \$8
SUNSET TAVERN Moon
Letters, Correspondents, Black
Ends, 8 pm, \$10
TRACTOR TAVERN Singer
Songwriter Residency Curated
by Whitney Mongé, 8 pm, \$10

Tues 3/24

LIVE MUSIC

BARBOZA Anna Meredith,
Guests, 7 pm, \$15/\$18
CHOP SUEY Iffin, Armature,
Point of Arches, 8 pm, \$8/\$10
HIGH DIVE Lilac Kings, Elk
Grove, They Rise, We Die, hour-
glasses, 7:30 pm, \$10/\$12
★ **SUNSET TAVERN** Ata Kak,
Guests, 9 pm, \$20
TRACTOR TAVERN Jenny Don't
& The Spurs, Wildcat Rose, Mike
Giacolino, 8 pm, \$10

JAZZ

SEA MONSTER LOUNGE
Syrrup, 8-9:30 pm, free
★ **TRIPLE DOOR** Jane
Monheit, 7:30 pm, \$30-\$40

Wed 3/25

LIVE MUSIC

★ **CENTRAL SALOON** The Rare
Forms, Glassboys, Future Tense,
8 pm, \$10
★ **THE CROCODILE BACK**
BAR Vita and the Wolf,
Alexandria Maillot, 9 pm,
\$12/\$14
THE ROYAL ROOM Collier &
Seales Duo, Valerie Rosa,
7:30-11 pm, \$15
SEA MONSTER LOUNGE 48
Degrees North, 8-9:30 pm, free
TRACTOR TAVERN Mrs. Henry,
The Whags, Smoker Dad,
Golden Ruins, 8 pm, \$10
★ **TRIPLE DOOR** On A Winter's
Night, 7:30 pm, \$37-\$43

March events

AURORA Borealis
MUSIC • COMEDY • EVENTS

3/6 PROM DATE MIXTAPE (80S HITS) 9P-12A \$10/\$15
 3/7 RED HOUSE BAND/JOE COOK BLUES BAND (BLUES) 6P-10P \$8
 3/8 ELÉRÉ LATIN JAZZ - SALSA NIGHT! 6-8:30P \$10
 3/13 ROCK STEADY (ROCK/HITS) 9P-12A \$8/\$12
 3/14 80S V 90S W/ DJ INDICA JONES 9P-12A \$5/\$10
 3/15 DR. JOP FUNK SHOP 6-9PM \$5/\$8
 3/20 THE RUMOR (ROCK/HITS) 8-11PM \$10
 3/21 BAND-IT SPRING REUNION SHOW
 FIVE BANDS THROUGHOUT THE NIGHT! 6-11:30 \$7/\$10
 3/22 PH FACTOR (BIG BAND) 5-8PM \$7/\$10
 3/27 THE BET 80'S PARTY EVER! (SO FAR)
 WITH NITE WAVE (80'S HITS) 9P-12A \$15/\$20
 3/28 MOJO CANON (RHYTHM & BLUES) 8:30-11:30PM \$10
 3/29 ROADSIDE ATTRACTION (BIG BAND) 6-9PM \$7/\$10

TACOS! FREE! LIVE TRIVIA! TEQUILA!
TUESDAYS! 7-9PM

WEDNESDAY NIGHT KARAOKE
7-10PM • FREE

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NEBULA & SILVERTOMB
SAT APR 4
7:00PM DOORS
21 AND OVER

THE CHATS
MEAN JEANS & THICK
TUE APR 14
7:00PM DOORS
ALL AGES
BAR W/PROPER ID

THE BIRTHDAY MASSACRE
JULIE NEK
SAT APR 18
7:00PM DOORS
ALL AGES
BAR W/PROPER ID

TIGER ARMY
RETROFUTURE TOUR 2020
FRI APR 3
7:00PM DOORS
ALL AGES
BAR W/PROPER ID

SIRENS
SUN APR 19
8:00PM DOORS
ALL AGES
BAR W/PROPER ID

THE AMITY AFFLICTION
STRAY FROM THE PATH & UNITYTX
SUN APR 19
8:00PM DOORS
ALL AGES
BAR W/PROPER ID










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SAT MAY 30
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3/13 FRIDAY		<i>The Crocodile Presents:</i> Palehound @ The Sunset Adult Mom, Emma Lee Toyoda 21 & Over
3/15 SUNDAY		<i>The Crocodile Presents:</i> Saved By The 90's Special Guest 21 & Over
3/18 WEDNESDAY		<i>The Crocodile Presents:</i> Frazey Ford Alec Shaw 21 & Over
3/20 FRIDAY		<i>KEXP & The Crocodile Present:</i> Wye Oak Lomelda 21 & Over SOLD OUT
3/20 FRIDAY		<i>107.7 The End & The Crocodile Present:</i> Bear Hands @ The Tractor Irontom 21 & Over
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		Thu 5/14 MIKE LOVE
		Wed 5/20 ABSOFACTO

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MONDAYS:
FUCK YEAH BINGO
7-9PM

Thursday, March 12
PATHOGENS
 Soot, To End It All,
 Pink Void
 9PM \$10-\$13

Friday, March 13
GROTESQUE
GORELESQUE
 Juliet Tango
 9PM \$12-\$15

Monday, March 16
 MECHANISMUS & YES PRODUCTIONS PRESENT
SYNDEY VALETTE
 Crosby
 8PM \$12

Friday, March 20
VASTUM
 Hissing, Cystic
 9PM \$14-\$17

Saturday, March 21
WAX LEAD
 Vio/ator, Hallows
 2 Libras
 8PM \$15-\$17

Tuesday, March 24
POP CULT TRIVIA
CLASSIC SIMPSON'S TRIVIA
 6:30PM FREE

Friday, March 27
 SYNTH CITY PRESENTS:
DROID BISHOP
 Let Em Rot, Starfarer
 8PM \$15-\$18

Saturday, April 4
AERIAL RUIN
 Eye of Nix
 Geist & The Sacred Ensemble
 9PM \$10-\$13

Wednesday, April 8
 SOUND GIG PRESENTS:
PEARS
 Single Mothers
 9PM \$14-\$16

Thursday, April 9
NOISE BRIGADE
 Damon Medek
 All Hype
 The Coastals
 8PM \$10-\$12

Friday, April 10
RITUAL VEIL
 Xibling, Silo 77
 Vox Sinistra (DJ Set)
 9PM \$12-\$15

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MARCH 16





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THINGS TO DO

St. Patrick's Day

COMMUNITY

Leprechaun Hunt
 Kruckeberg Botanic
 Garden, March 13-15,
 March 20-22

PARTIES & NIGHTLIFE

Kiss Me, I'm Irish
Seattle St. Paddy's
Day Bar Crawl
 Various locations,
 March 14-18, \$10-\$30

Lucky's St. Patrick's
Day Crawl
 Various locations, Sat
 March 14, 4 pm, \$15

Paddy O'Party
 Washington State Fair
 Events Center, Sat
 March 14, 4 pm, \$12/\$15

Saint Patrick's Day at
Paddy Coyne's Pier 70
 Paddy Coyne's Irish Pub,
 Tues March 17, 11 am, free

Saint Patrick's Day
Boat Party Seattle
 Emerald City Party Boats,
 Sat March 14, 9 pm,
 \$25-\$55

Shawn O'Donnell's St.
Patrick's Day Festival
 Shawn O'Donnell's
 American Grill & Irish Pub,
 March 12-18 (Fremont
 & Everett), March 13-18
 (Pioneer Square)

St. Patrick's Day
 Fadó Irish Pub, Sat
 March 14, Tues March 17

MUSIC

Celtic Viking St.
Patrick's Day Party
 Lucky Liquor,
 Tues March 17, 9 pm, \$10

★ **Gaelic Gays St.**
Patrick's Party with the
Betsy Olson Band
 Wildrose, Tues March 17,
 4:30-8:30 pm

Geoffrey Castle's 15th
Annual St. Patrick's
Celebration
 Kirkland Performance
 Center, Tues March 17,
 7:30 pm, \$35-\$40

The Irish Experience
 Murphy's Pub, Tues
 March 17, 11 am-2 am

NorthLeft: Emerald
 Timbre Room, Tues
 March 17, 10 pm, \$5/\$10

Silent Disco Saint
Patrick's Day Party
 Frolik Kitchen + Cocktails,
 Sat March 14, 8:30 pm,
 \$16/\$25

★ **St. Paddy's Day**
Party with the Warren
G. Hardings & Guests
 Nectar, Tues March 17,
 8 pm, \$10/\$15

St. Pat's Party with
Fast Nasties, Whalien,
Fat Starfish
 Central Saloon, Tues
 March 17, 8-11:45 pm,
 \$8/\$10

St. Patrick's Day Party
at Tim's!
 Tim's Tavern, Tues March
 17, 2 pm, \$5

St. Patrick's Day Party
with The International
Funk Snakes
 Parliament Tavern,
 Tues March 17, 8 pm, \$10



St. Patrick's Day with
The Paperboys
 Tractor Tavern, Tues
 March 17, 6:30 pm, 9 pm,
 \$20

FILM

★ **Extra Ordinary**
 Grand Illusion, March
 13-19, \$10

★ **The Secret of Kells**
 Central Cinema, March
 13-18, \$6-\$11

FOOD & DRINK

★ **Ballard Breweries**
Present St. Pat's
Parade O' Pints
 Populuxe Brewing, Sat
 March 14, 2-6 pm, \$5+

★ **Brewer's Dinner**
 Pyramid Alehouse, Fri
 March 13, 6-9 pm, \$40

Hoppy St.
Pawtricks Day
 Floating Bridge Brewing,
 Sun March 15, 1-6 pm

★ **Mulleady's Irish Pub**
Saint Patrick's Day
 Mulleady's Irish
 Pub & Restaurant,
 Tues March 17, \$50

St. Patrick's Da
Lunch Cruise
 Waterways Cruises,
 Tues March 17,
 11:30 am-1:30 pm, \$66

A St. Paddy's Day Lunch
 Hot Stove Society, Tues
 March 17, 12-1 pm, \$40

SPORTS & RECREATION

Kirkland Shamrock Run
 Marina Park, Sat
 March 14, 9 am, \$40

Seattle Gaels Field Day
 Magnuson Park, Mon
 March 23, free

St. Paddy's Day Run
Tacoma
 Downtown Tacoma, Sat
 March 14, 7-11:30 am, free

Woodinville Lepre-
chaun Leap 5K/10K
 Wilnot Park, Sat
 March 14, \$30-\$50

ARTS

Miss Shamrock
Drag Pageant
 Rhein Haus, Sun
 March 15, 7 pm

Sanctus Ignotus
 Push/Pull, free,
 through March 17

Milk Money

In *First Cow*, Kelly Reichardt presents a surprisingly tender film about the American frontier.

BY JOULE ZELMAN

For much of *First Cow*, a new movie by director Kelly Reichardt (*Certain Women*) set in 19th-century Oregon Territory, the actors' hands are hardly ever still. They pick berries, stitch clothes, shell mussels, mix dough. We first see the protagonist, Cookie, as he reaches for a wild mushroom nestled among ferns. Encountering a stunned lizard, his dirty but gentle hands set the creature on its feet. It's a lovely moment of characterization that's typical of this movie: poetic, earthy, and tender.

The depiction of Cookie (played by a soft-eyed John Magaro) is the first of many subtle strikes against the white American mythology of the frontier. He seems badly equipped to survive among the ill-tempered gold diggers and other fortune seekers drinking and shooting their way through occupied Native lands. Tagging miserably along with a group of fur trappers, Cookie shies away from brawls, submits to verbal abuse, and remains on the margins of the white community at a rough trading post.

By chance, he falls in with King Lu (a charismatic Orion Lee), his foil in every way: a worldly, multilingual Chinese immigrant with a dozen ideas for making them rich. Somehow, Reichardt and fellow screenwriter Jonathan Raymond (who also wrote the novel *The Half-Life*, this



PHOTO BY ALLYSON RIGGS, COURTESY OF A24

John Magaro as Cookie with the eponymous bovine of 'First Cow.'

movie's source material) avoid the brotherhood-cures-bigotry trope that plagues so many period films about cross-racial friendship. King isn't a thematic device to cure the white man's prejudice; he's a

buoyant aspiring entrepreneur with a dangerous blind spot for white racial resentment. Cookie, for his part, is a man with race privilege, yet an outcast, exceptional in his humility and curiosity. When Cookie

moves into his new companion's tiny cabin, the two men's instant closeness feels so natural that you don't question it.

So where does the cow come in? Cookie and King realize that to start a business, you need "capital, leverage, or a crime." They have no choice but crime. A British landowner (Toby Jones) has imported the territory's first cow to supply cream for his proper British tea. Our two protagonists repeatedly sneak onto his property by night, and Cookie whips up some batter and sells fried cakes in the morning.

But the push to colonize the territory has brought in old-world wealth and the will to defend it with violence. The cow, with her certified European lineage, represents capital, whiteness, and Western notions of property and civilization. Yet, in that magical way of animals on film, the cow is also just a cow, a feeling creature that finds herself in an alien world.

Immersed in the textures of the everyday, Reichardt has made a movie where everything feels primally alive. There's nostalgia, not for some fantasized pioneering ethos, but for the undiminished wilderness. In this environment, King and Cookie's friendship answers another instinctual need: companionship. One word of advice: Don't wait to stream this one. You need to sit still in a theater and watch King build a fire in real time for that last shot of the film to break your heart. ■



Top Picks

'Extra Ordinary'

BY LEILANI POLK

A new and eminently worthy entry into the annals of Fantastic Supernatural Comedies, *Extra Ordinary* follows Rose (comedian Maeve Higgins), a sweet, awkward driving instructor in rural Ireland with a not-so-secret talent (the ability to exorcise ghosts from the everyday objects—and animals—they inhabit). Of course, the townsfolk are always

bugging her about their nuisance hauntings, even though she quit the biz for good many years ago after accidentally getting her dad killed mid-exorcism. She prefers to live her boring, staid life with occasional spicy appearances by her pregnant, single-and-ready-to-mingle sister.

Everything about this movie is done subtly right. The vague retro atmosphere, the quasi-horror soundtrack, the mildly distorted PSA-like videotape breaks—it could be the late 1970s or early '80s à la *Stranger Things*, though the era is never actually specified. The unexpected plot, the hilariously gross comedy—*Extra Ordinary* doesn't feel like it's trying too hard to get laughs, but man-

ages to draw them out with regularity—and, most importantly, the excellent casting.

Will Forte is perfect as creepy, washed-up, one-hit wonder Christian Winter, likely wearing the same clothing and hairstyle from the time he enjoyed his brief rise (and bearing a striking resemblance to real-life "Do You Wanna Make Love" hit maker Peter McCann). He's a bumbling satanist whose deal with the devil to get his stardom back requires the sacrifice of a virgin, much to the impatience of his long-suffering, self-involved harpy girlfriend (Claudia O'Doherty giving a first-rate performance of a character who's quite the opposite of the one she played in the Netflix series *Love*).

Barry Ward is also fantastic as the widowed father who comes to Rose for help with his spellbound, levitating daughter—but who, side note, has been enduring daily supernatural interference from the overbearing ghost of his wife since her death eight years ago, a plot device that hits stellar levels of hilarity later in the film. And Higgins is an unexpected comic gem who wears her character's awkwardness like a second skin.

Extra Ordinary might be this year's best comedy. It's certainly my favorite of 2020 so far. (March 13–19, Grand Illusion Cinema, \$10) **LEILANI POLK**

OPENING FRI MARCH 20



'The Wild Goose Lake'

This rainy Chinese neo-noir directed by Diao Yinan follows gangster Zhou Zenong (Hu Ge), who is on the lam after mistakenly murdering a cop during a gang shoot-out. While he is unsure of who to trust, a mysterious woman Liu Aiai (Gwei Lun-Mei) offers him help and companionship as he slowly gets backed into a corner. *The Wild Goose Lake* is wonderfully moody, taking B-movie conventions and drenching them in pink light and the sound of motorbikes. Hu—known for his *wuxia* martial-arts roles—is appropriately stoic in his role as Zenong, while Gwei plays her character cryptically, making her motives hard to parse out. It's an interesting

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THINGS DO → *Film*

(and bleak) look into a suburb of Wuhan that explores social issues in contemporary China. (SIFF Film Center, \$14) **JASMYNE KEIMIG**

WED MARCH 25

‘Digimon Adventure: Last Evolution Kizuna’

Do you remember Digimon? Those Tamagotchi-inspired “Digital Monsters” that rivaled Pokémon at the turn of the millennium? It turns out those creatures never went away. The original anime, *Digimon Adventure*, spawned two sequel series over the last two decades—*Digimon Adventure 02*, from 2000 to 2001, and *Digimon Adventure Tri*, a series of excellent films that were released from 2015 to 2018. Now it’s finally time for the series to grow up. The promised finale, *Digimon Adventure: Last Evolution Kizuna*, hits US theaters on March 25. If you loved Digimon as a kid, I recommend returning to see this “final” chapter. The series stands up, even 20 years later. (AMC Pacific Place and Regal Thornton Place, 7 pm, \$16.) **CHASE BURNS**



YU GU

‘A Woman’s Work: The NFL’s Cheerleader Problem’

This documentary from Canadian director Yu Gu must not be missed. Here we have capitalism in its essence, which is the exploitation of those who are perceived as powerless by the owners of capital. If you have a little power, capitalism will have to reward you. If you do not, it will tear you to pieces. In *A Woman’s Work: The NFL’s Cheerleader Problem*, the powerless parties are cheerleaders for the National Football League. They are in the middle of a billion-dollar industry, but they are paid less than peanuts. What we learn in this doc is that the wages of sports mascots and concession workers are often higher than the cheerleaders. This is not to say that mascots or concession workers should be paid less, but, holy shit, what are cheerleaders being paid? A contract examined in the documentary gives us some idea: \$12,050! And the cheerleaders get paid only once a year! Capitalism! Damn! The

director will be in attendance. (Northwest Film Forum, 7:30 pm, \$13.) **CHARLES MUDEDE**

UNSTREAMABLE

Where we recommend great films you can find only on DVD.

‘Flirting’

There are several young starlets in this Australian coming-of-age drama: Nicole Kidman (just before she transitioned to Hollywood), Noah Taylor (of *Game of Thrones* and *Submarine* fame), Naomi Watts (as a nerd!), and, most notably, a 16-year-old, gap-toothed Thandie Newton in her very first role. *Flirting* is a surprisingly tender teen film, set in a Catholic boarding school in Australia in the 1960s. Taylor plays Danny, an intelligent outcast who falls in love with the brilliant, hot new girl Thandie (Newton) from the school next door. She’s an outcast in her own right, as a highly educated Black girl from Uganda. The two bond over their shared love of Sartre, sneaking into each other’s dormitory to be together. The 1991 film thoughtfully handles issues of race and never falls into the clichés that mark the genre. The other, younger cast members in smaller roles are fat cheeked and covered in acne, and they have a gawkiness that reminds me so much of being a teenager—after watching this, I almost miss that time! Almost. (Available for rent at Scarecrow Video and Netflix DVD. More recs at thestranger.com/unstreamable.) **JASMYNE KEIMIG**

MORE

TheStranger.com/Film

More Picks

Bacurau

SIFF Cinema Uptown, opening Fri March 13, \$11/\$14

ByDesign 2020

Northwest Film Forum, March 18–22, free–\$56

Brute Force

The Beacon, March 15–16, \$13

The Centennial of Federico Fellini

Seattle Art Museum, Thurs, March 19–May 14, \$9/\$78

Charulata

The Beacon, March 24 & 26, \$13

Children of Vertigo Film Series

SIFF Film Center, March 18–April 7, \$14

Emma.

Various locations

The Grand Illusion

The Beacon, March 14–15, \$13

The Invisible Man

Wide release

Old Joy

SIFF Cinema Uptown, Sat March 15, 6:30 pm, \$14

Onward

Wide release

A Regular Woman

Northwest Film Forum, Wed March 25, 7 pm, free

Ride Your Wave

SIFF Cinema Uptown, opening Fri March 20, \$11/\$14

Seattle Jewish Film Festival

Various locations, March 19–29 & April 4–5, \$15–\$225

Vitalina Varela

Northwest Film Forum, March 14–20, \$13

Wendy and Lucy

SIFF Cinema Uptown, Sat March 15, 3:30 pm, \$14

The Whistlers

Grand Illusion, March 20–April 2, \$10

MORE EVENTS

TheStranger.com/EverOut

Early Warnings

MULAN Wide release, opening Fri March 27

NEVER RARELY SOMETIMES ALWAYS Wide release, opening Fri March 27

SCIENCE FICTION + FANTASY SHORT FILM FESTIVAL SIFF Cinema Egyptian & SIFF Cinema Uptown, March 28–29, \$22

SEATTLE DEAF FILM FESTIVAL Northwest Film Forum, April 3–5, \$17–\$95

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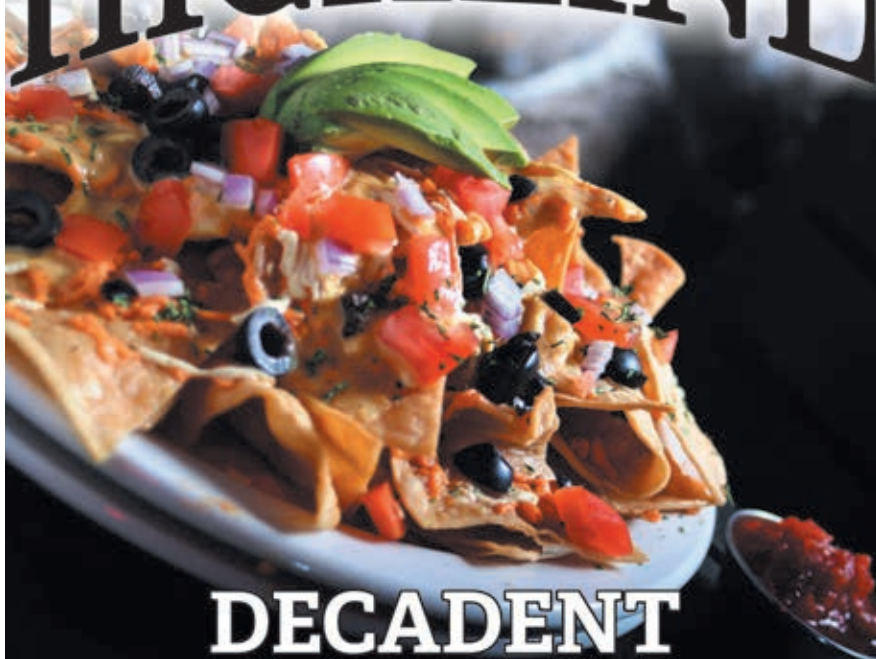
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A Short Guide to Smørrebrød

And where you can find Scandinavia's prettiest pub fare.

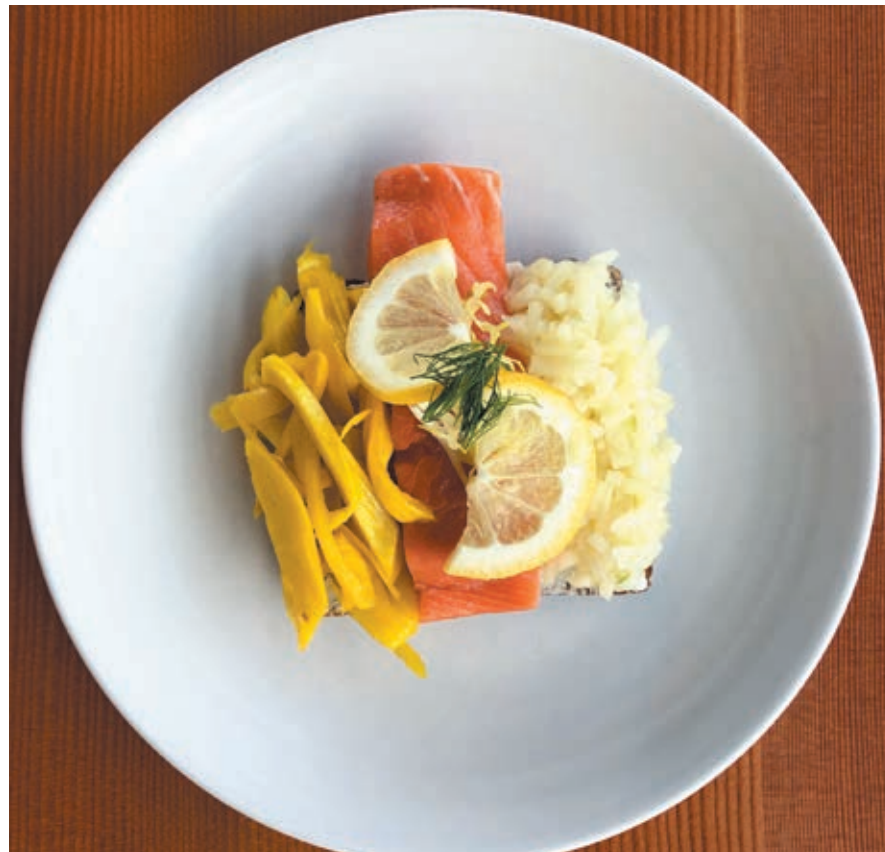
BY MEG VAN HUYGEN

Fresh off a recent trip to Denmark, I came home infatuated with smørrebrød, the open-faced sandwiches found in just about every deli, pub, and snack bar north of Hamburg.

Because they're often such perfect, dainty artworks, it feels rude to describe smørrebrød simply as "open-faced sandwiches." Sure, they're in the same family, but because there isn't a piece of bread on top to smash everything down, the styling and composition is more creative, à la sushi. Overseas, the really involved smørrebrød are more like little food dioramas, so lovingly tweezed and landscaped that you can barely stand to ruin them with your dumb, clumsy mouth.

Initially created as a way to use up leftovers, smørrebrød can be made out of pretty much anything. But they're generally built upon a slice of dense, malty rye bread (rugbrød) that's about half the size of a standard American slice. Per the name—"buttered bread" or "smeared bread"—smørrebrød's base layer is butter or some other fat, often with mayonnaise slathered on top.

The flavors take off from there. The usual Danish renditions might feature, for example, lox, roast beef, liver pâté, bay shrimp, pickled herring, fried flounder, a hard-boiled egg, various cheeses, and/or caviar, especially the kind from a tube—along with, perhaps, avocado, tomato, rémoulade, infinite types of fresh or pickled veggies or other delectables in hundreds of permutations. Sprigs of herbs, usually dill, garnish the top, and they're often adorned with a small slice of



ANDREW CARLIN

Find the most authentic smørrebrød in town at the Nordic Museum's Freya cafe.

lemon or orange like a bright little crown.

The Danes have eldritch rules about the order in which you must eat your smørrebrød when there is an assortment of them (for instance, first herring, then other seafood types, then meat, and then cheese). Also, you use a knife and fork—never your hands. (I didn't

do any of that stuff. Instead, I wolfed them all down like a cartoon monster, in the order my eyeballs saw them. But, y'know, FYI.)

In Seattle, there are at least three local spots that can help me pursue my newfound love of smørrebrød closer to home. Fortunately, they're all legit.

The Dane in Crown Hill offers laks (smoked salmon, cream cheese, arugula, dill, and red onion) and æg (hard-boiled egg, Havarti, tomato, dill, arugula, balsamic, and red onion), both on buttered rye bread. These are the largest, least ornate smørrebrød in town, and they fulfill their original role as casual pub grub best.

Freya at the National Nordic Museum in Ballard has the most authentic smørrebrød in town, and the loveliest. The crown jewel among them features juniper-smoked king salmon, pickled fennel, tart apple, frisée, and lemon, all topped with apple-horseradish yogurt. But the tomatmad—with tomato, pickled fennel, arugula, tarragon mayo, herbs, and crumbled bacon—is neck and neck with the salmon for first place. Freya's menu changes from time to time, and all their smørrebrød are both heavenly and dazzling to behold.

Open to the public, the Friday night Kafe at the **Swedish Club** on Dexter Avenue North offers a darling and wholesome time, with a rotating menu of prim smørrebrød options—called smörgås because they're Swedish. Plus, there are the Scandinavian-inspired cocktail specials and the sweeping view. The club leans heavily on the bay shrimp and roast beef, so they may not have anything to feed vegetarians, other than booze.

When eaten correctly, smørrebrød are chased by a stinging-cold shot of akvavit, of which the Swedish Club has a nice selection. That's the only one of the Danes' arcane sandwich rules I always make sure to follow. ■

Top Picks

Support Local Restaurants

The Seattle food scene, already in a somewhat precarious state after an onslaught of restaurant closures, is feeling the impact of coronavirus as diners increasingly opt to stay home. Major food events such as Taste Washington, Bacon Eggs and Kegs, and Cocktail District have also been canceled or rescheduled. According to Eater Seattle, restaurants are resorting to great lengths to offset loss of business, including advertising their delivery services and health and sanitation practices on social media, and prominently displaying hand sanitizer. Local pastry purveyor Piroshky Piroshky even went so far as to market a new piroshky containing ginger, curry, chickpeas, and zucchini as "immune-supportive." Vegan Thai restaurant Araya's Place also sought to assuage customers' anxieties by assuring them that none of their employees have traveled or left the country in the last six months. And as

The Stranger reported, restaurants in Chinatown-International District may have borne the brunt of this dire situation, with business cut in half due to coronavirus fears and racist stigma. Many businesses fear having to lay off workers if the slump continues.

While people particularly vulnerable to the virus should be staying home, the rest of the Seattle public should be going out and supporting our city, if carefully and with plenty of hand sanitizer (and hand washing). Might we suggest somewhere in the International District? Here are some noteworthy options.

Green Leaf Vietnamese Restaurant: There's a reason this Vietnamese joint is usually packed, and that it has opened another successful branch outside of its original International District location, in Bellevue. You can order pretty much anything off the rather expansive menu and be content in the knowledge that you'll leave satisfied no matter what it is—any of the vermicelli or rice combos (the latter often served with a fried egg on top), a range of pho

and congee, and fresh offerings ala goi du du (fresh green papaya salad). I'm particularly enamored of the bot chien (rice flour cakes that are crispy on the outside, gooey in the middle, pan-fried with egg and scallions, and paired with a sweet soy dipping sauce), and the beef spare ribs, which are coated in a light barbecue sauce and covered in sautéed green onions. (418 Eighth Ave S, 206-340-1388) **LELANI POLK**

Phnom Penh Noodle House: Fans everywhere mourned when the Cambodian restaurant and longtime Chinatown-ID fixture closed after 30 years of business in spring 2018. Happily, the beloved institution, which previously announced plans to reopen at a new location in the Thai Binh Apartments building after a successful Indiegogo campaign, has now set an official reopening date of March 14. Mayor Jenny Durkan visited the restaurant to celebrate a \$140K grant from the Office of Economic Development, honoring the business for being "an outstanding contribution to the economic vitality and cultural vibrancy of the city." And

it is. Among the highlights from the menu are the foursome beef noodle (a spiced Cambodian beef stew with meatballs, sliced beef, tripe, and wide rice noodles), the house special crab fried rice, and the famed Phnom Penh chicken wings, a perfect mélange of spicy and sweet, sautéed with jalapeños and green onions in a black-pepper garlic honey sauce. (913 S Jackson St)

JULIANNE BELL

Song Phang Kong: Beng Rajsombath has managed to weather the up-zoning happening all around her hole-in-the-wall Laotian/Thai restaurant in Little Saigon, likely because her authentic food is so damn good. The best dish at Song Phang Kong is sai ua, or pork sausages. They're fat and dense, full of onion and sticky rice, and fragrant with lemongrass, crushed lime leaf, and cilantro. Rajsombath mixes and stuffs the sausages herself, and then hangs them to dry for a day, allowing the pork to cure and acquire a distinct, tangy flavor. (1017 S Jackson St, 206-323-1782)

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THINGS TO DO → *Food & Drink*



Seven Stars Pepper Szechuan Restaurant:

Seven Stars Pepper makes my favorite bowl of dan dan noodles in the city (though my experience is by no means comprehensive). Part of my enjoyment is environmental. The restaurant occupies the second floor in a shopping center on Jackson Street and 12th Avenue. From a big table near the window, you can sip tea and gaze outside at the goings-on of Little Saigon, which feels somehow both urban and homey. But the main attraction here is the Szechuan dan dan noodle with pork, and it all comes down to the hand-shaved noodles. In the morning, the cooks make a big block of dough and then hack hunks off of it with a kitchen knife. The resulting noodle is long, thick, and ragged. The thickness offers the comfort of a steamed dumpling, and the shape makes the noodle more receptive to the sauce—which is my other favorite part of the dish. (1207 S Jackson St, Suite 211, 206-568-6446) **RICH SMITH**

THURS MARCH 12

Plant Loving Chef Dinners

As mainstream interest in a plant-based diet increases, both for reasons of health and sustainability, Seattle is slowly but surely getting more vegan options, from more widely available

meat substitutes like the Impossible Burger to the trendy dairy-free ice cream at Frankie & Jo's. Vegan chef Makini Howell (who once deployed her culinary skills as a personal chef for Stevie Wonder) has been poised at the forefront of the movement for years with her Plum Bistro restaurant group. With her new "plant-loving" chef dinner series, award-winning local chefs will prepare meatless meals of their own. The lineup includes a vegan twist on modern Korean cuisine by chef Rachel Yang of Joule and Revel on March 12, a multicourse meal by chef Ethan Stowell on April 9, and a cocktail hour with small bites by chef Edouardo Jordan of Junebaby and Salare on May 14. (*Plum Bistro, 5-9:30 pm.*) **JULIANNE BELL**

THURS MARCH 19

Sophie Egan with Tim Egan: 'Conscious Food Choices for Ourselves and the Planet'

If you're bewildered by the many labels on food like "fair trade" or "biodynamic," and if you want to eat sustainably and ethically but have trouble finding and understanding information about what's going in your mouth, attend this Town Hall talk by the author of *How to Be a Conscious Eater: Making Food Choices That Are Good for You, Others, and the Planet*. Sophie Egan is a health, nutrition, and sustainability expert who holds a leading role at the health initiative of the Culinary Institute of America. She is a widely published journalist and made her book debut with 2016's *Devoured* (about the American food psyche and how what we eat defines who we are). She will be joined by award-winning environmental author and journalist (and dad) Timothy Egan. (*Town Hall*, 7:30 pm, \$5.) **JOULE ZELMAN**

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Bakery for canines
3515 Fremont Ave N, Suite B

UNIVERSITY DISTRICT
Capsule Cafe
Taiwanese buffet
4507 University Way NE

More Picks

Ballard Chili Cook-Off Competition
Brimmer & Heeltap, Thurs
March 12, 6-9 pm

Brewer's Dinner
Pyramid Alehouse, Fri
March 13, 6–9 pm, \$40

**Capitol Hill Distillers
Reserve Release Party**
Heritage Distilling
Company, Sun March 14
2–5 pm

Densho Community Night
Super Six, Thurs March 19,
4-9 pm

Fancy Cup O' Noodle Night
Addo, Wed March 25,
8 pm, \$15

**Grosgrain Wine Dinner
at Palace Kitchen**
Palace Kitchen, Sun
March 15, 6:30 pm, \$100

History Café: Women in Washington Wine
Museum of History & Industry (MOHAI), Wed
March 18, 6:30–8 pm, free

Pups + Pints
Scuttlebutt Brewery
Taproom, Sat March 21,
12-4 pm

Slider Cook-Off
Museum of Glass, Sat
March 21, 6:30-10 pm,
\$35-\$100

MORE EVENTS

TheStranger.com/EverOut

Early Warnings

SEATTLE RESTAURANT WEEK SPRING 2020 *Various locations, March 29–April 9, \$20/\$35*

THE STRANGER'S 2020 SEATTLE WING WEEK *Various locations, May 11-16*

WASHINGTON BREWERS FESTIVAL *Marymoor Park, June 19–21, \$25*

SEATTLE INTERNATIONAL BEERFEST *Fisher Pavilion, July 10-12, \$30/45*

BALLARD SEAFOODFEST *Ballard, July 10-12, free*

KIRKLAND UNCORKED *Marina Park, July 10-12, \$30*

